

Sapphistication columnist
Beth Elliott on the 'emotional wallop' of Harvey Milk.

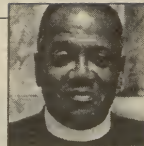
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Pennies from heaven
AIDS Emergency Fund weighs in on World AIDS Day.

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Keep the faith
Gay minister Peter Gomes reinterprets the Good Book. see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 26 • No. 48 • 28 November 1996

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What are you doing for World AIDS Day '96?

World AIDS Day is Sunday, December 1st. See below.

For more World AIDS Day stories, turn to pages 20 - 24.

Berkeley Free clinic to offer free HIV testing

by Cynthia Laird

Round-the-clock free HIV and sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing will mark World AIDS Day at the Berkeley Free Clinic, located at 2339 Durant Avenue in Berkeley, from 12:01 a.m. to midnight Sunday, December 1. The clinic will provide free services on a drop-in basis. STD services are confidential, and HIV testing is anonymous. Test results will be available in one week.

The commemoration is being organized by the clinic's HIV Prevention Services and the Gay Men's Health Collective. Also involved in the day-long testing effort are medical personnel, peer counselors, and information/referral volunteers.

This major commitment of clinic volunteers involves nearly 100 individuals donating their time on a holiday weekend, as a way to honor those who have died and those living with AIDS. The goal is to provide education and prevention that is accessible to all, treating everyone with dignity and without discrimination.

The Gay Men's Health Collective is marking 20 years of providing free, confidential STD testing to men. The clinic's HIV test site is one of only two all-volunteer sites in California and provides anonymous client-centered counseling and testing to more than 2,500 people a year without charge. For more information, call (510) 644-0425. ▼

Da Mayor to join Int'l Mr. Deaf Leather, Ms. GG Leather at SF Eagle

by Cynthia Laird

International Mr. Deaf Leather Daniel Sonnenfeld and Ms. Golden Gate Leather Beth Downey will emcee a benefit for the Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco Foundation on World AIDS Day, Sunday, December 1 at the SF Eagle. Mayor Willie Brown is also scheduled to make a special guest appearance at the beer and soda bust fundraiser.

The MCC Foundation was started by the church to benefit the neighboring community. Various community groups, including Project Inform, the Deaf Gay and Lesbian Center, the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Chorus, assorted 12-step recovery groups, and HIV support groups use the church's Eureka Street building, which averages over 100 meetings a week.

The purpose of the foundation is to underwrite furniture, equipment, and other

purchases that are used and shared by these community groups. Proceeds from last year's fundraiser bought 40 padded chairs for meeting groups to use.

Most recently, MCC was in the news for its support of medical marijuana, and was the first distribution site for Healing Alternatives Foundation's distribution program.

At the benefit, ASL interpretation will be provided through the Community Access Network (CAN) and UCSF's Center on Deafness (UCCD). Mr. San Francisco Leather Gary Virginia and the singing group Jungle Red will also appear.

Jungle Red includes five multi-talented performers: John Gullotto, Patty Moore, Robert Kirsch, Beca Burrington, and musical director Fred Fishman. Founded in 1992 when Up Your Alley's entertainment director was looking for some new acts, Jungle Red's musical style runs the gamut from the 1960s, R&B, do-wop, and jazz standards, to

page 24 ►



Mayor Willie Brown

Gladstone experts to talk about what's next

by Stephen LeBlanc

In honor of World AIDS Day, the Gladstone Institute of Virology and Immunology will host a panel discussion and question-and-answer session titled "Therapeutic strategies for long-term HIV-1 seropositives and those with late-stage AIDS" on Monday, December 2.

The discussion will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Carr Auditorium at the Gladstone Institute at San Francisco Gener-

al Hospital, located on 22nd Street near Potrero Avenue. The panel will be moderated by ACT UP Golden Gate; panel members will include Warner Green, director of the Institute, Mike McCune, Associate Investigator, Dr. Steven Deeks, Kathleen Mulligan, and Mark Goldsmith.

Attendees are encouraged to bring with them specific questions about their treatment options and treatment histories, and to get feedback from some of San Francisco's world-recognized virologists and immunologists. ▼

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E. Bay outreach worker attacked outside HIV education event

by Cynthia Laird

Organizers of a Saturday, November 2 HIV educational and risk reduction party in Oakland are condemning an attack with a baseball bat upon an outreach worker for the AIDS Project of the East Bay (APEB) as he was returning to the party.

That evening, APEB hosted an event called "Freakend," a party held once a year in Oakland targeting African-American men at risk for HIV infection. The event was held at Studio 254 on Telegraph Avenue, in the heart of the city's black community. Over 300 people attended the party, including many gay, bisexual, and transgender people of color.

The attack occurred shortly after midnight, as Patrick Forte, one of APEB's transgender outreach educators, was returning to the club, after completing a transgender survey with another employee.

Valerie Papaya Mann, APEB executive director, said that shortly after midnight, a group of young men and women gathered at the street corner near the club and shouted "Faggots," "Dyke," and other anti-gay slurs at event participants.

Forte and another employee had gone to the other worker's vehicle to conduct the transgender survey. They had completed it, and were returning to Studio 254, when Forte realized he had left the surveys in the car and returned to retrieve them. As he returned to the club, he heard footsteps behind him, and before he had a chance to turn around, a young man wielding an aluminum baseball bat demanded money and attacked Forte from behind, Papaya Mann said.

Forte, who returned to work Monday, November 25, told the B.A.R. that he probably would have died had it not been for a passerby who heard his cries for help.

"The agency was trying to help the community. It was a senseless act," Forte said. "If it hadn't been for a man who heard my cries for help, I wouldn't be sitting at my desk now. Even when I was down

he still attacked me."

Hospitalized overnight

Papaya Mann said she was among those who discovered the semi-conscious Forte in the street. He was rushed to Kaiser Hospital, where he remained overnight. He was treated for head and rib injuries as well as an injury to his right hand. The Oakland police were called and a report was filed, Forte added.

He said his head and ribs are still sore and that his right hand is still swollen.

"This act of hatred and violence against the gay, bisexual, and transgender population is outrageous," Papaya Mann said. "The event had no alcohol or drugs and was free to the community. Organizations such as ours will be challenged to continue events such as this due to the ever-present threat of hate violence."

"We hardly ever hear about things like this in the East Bay, therefore we want to educate the East Bay communities about this tragedy and the real dangers faced by gay, bisexual, and transgendered individuals," Papaya Mann added.

Founded in 1983, APEB is the oldest and largest AIDS-exclusive service provider in Alameda County. For the last 13 years, APEB has provided culturally effective community education and prevention programs, case management services to persons with HIV, and a comprehensive emotional and practical support volunteer program. The agency's mission is the prevention of the spread of HIV and the provision of culturally-affirming services to all persons and communities infected and affected by HIV in Alameda County.

APEB's case management program assisted nearly 1,000 people living with HIV last year. Of those, 80 percent were living in poverty, 70 percent were people of color, 40 percent were homeless, and 25 percent were women.

The agency's education and prevention programs reached 20,000 people in Alameda County last year, and over 400 group discussions were conducted in the community. ▼

For more information about APEB, call (510) 834-8181.

DA to put basher's name on national computer registry

by Dennis Conkin

Municipal Court Judge Herb Donaldson has issued a no-bail arrest warrant for the arrest of convicted gay basher Jonathan Bell, a 22-year-old Moraga, California resident who was sentenced to six months in San Francisco County jail on November 7 but failed to surrender to authorities.

Bell was sentenced to the term by Municipal Court Judge Julie Tang after a jury found him guilty of a Halloween eve 1995 hate crime assault on Ronald Bennett, a gay man.

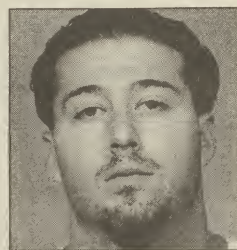
"It's a no-bail warrant, and we have made an application to the police department to have it entered into a national criminal warrant computer system," District Attorney investigator Ron Huberman told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

That national criminal information computer system identifies wanted criminals for police around the country, and can lead to their arrest in other states when they are charged with traffic violations or other relatively minor violations.

Misdemeanor crimes are generally not entered into the system, but can be, based on the nature of the crime, Huberman said.

Donaldson, who was assigned to the Department 17 court room while Tang was on vacation, signed the no-bail warrant after Huberman alerted the Sheriff's Department to Bell's failure to appear on November 14 and provided the judge with the requisite paperwork November 19.

Bell and co-defendant John Cody Lee were found guilty of attacking Bennett last year as he was



Jonathan Bell.

walking from the Lone Star Saloon to the SF Eagle, two Harrison Street bars. A group of four men jumped out of a car and punched and slugged the victim, threatened his life, and taunted him with anti-gay epithets and verbal abuse in the round-robin attack last October. Lee is currently serving a five-month sentence for his role in the attack. Joseph Stellin, a third man charged in the attack, failed to appear for trial and is the subject of a no-bench warrant for his arrest.

Bell's failure to surrender to serve the jail term follows his presentence apology in open court for the hate crime, and assurances that his participation in such an attack "would never happen again."

"I'm a good candidate for probation," Bell testified before Tang sentenced him to county jail for the hate crime.

Bell and Lee originally received one-year sentences but Tang suspended them down to six- and five-month terms, and also ordered three years probation, restitution, counseling, apologies to the victim, and an apology to the lesbian and gay community to be published in the *Bay Area Reporter* as part of the criminal sentence. ▼

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Two big steps forward for community center

by Cynthia Laird

The long-sought dream of a community center to serve San Francisco's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community is taking two giant steps forward. On Tuesday, November 26, Mayor Willie Brown signed legislation authorizing the construction of the community center.

On Monday, December 2, the CCP [Community Center Project]'s Board of Directors will present \$1.1 million in city funds to the owner of the Market Street property where the center is slated to be built. The funds were transferred from the Mayor's Office of Community Development to the CCP.

The overall budget for the center is \$7 million, according to Scott Shafer, president of the CCP board.

The center is planned to be constructed at 1800 Market Street



The community center site at Market and Octavia sts.

at Octavia. The proposed 48,000-square-foot facility will include a renovated Victorian building, plus a newly constructed five to six-story building next door. It is expected to be completed by 1999.

Shafer had earlier said the CCP hoped to purchase the property by November 1. With next week's transfer of money from the city to the CCP, to the owner, the property will be owned by the CCP only a month after Shafer's anticipated date.

The CCP is in the midst of raising the additional funds for the community center. Corporate, foundation, and individual donors are all being solicited in the effort. Additional money is also expected from the city's Re-

development Agency.

Proponents of the community center have long stated that San Francisco is one of the few cities in the country which have a large gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender population that does not have a community center. Even smaller cities such as Chico and Fremont have such centers, they've said.

Shafer said Brown's allocation of the \$1.1 million and his signing legislation means he's committed to the project. ▼

The CCP Board will present the check to the property owner on Monday, December 2 at 10:30 a.m. at 1800 Market Street.

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Castro holiday tree ceremony Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

The tree-lighting ceremony for the annual winter "Holiday Tree" in the Castro will begin at 7:30 p.m. this Sunday, December 1. Organizers plan to encompass all of the holidays celebrated in mid- and late December—Hanukah, Christmas, Winter Solstice, and Kwanzaa—on the tree.

The Merchants of Upper Market and Castro (MUMC) is again sponsoring the tree, which will be located at its traditional place in front of the Bank of America building at 18th and Castro. The public is invited to the tree-lighting ceremony.

Last year, MUMC stepped in at the last minute to organize the holiday tree project, after another group pulled out of sponsoring it. This year, MUMC members said they began planning in June in order to have a larger, fuller and better decorated tree.

Barry Hermanson, MUMC president, and Patrick Batt, vice president of the association, said they wanted to have the holiday tree decorated earlier this year so it could be enjoyed by the community.

It's estimated the tree project will cost \$6,000. Batt told the B.A.R. that so far, MUMC has raised about 75 percent of the money.

"We always welcome more donations," said Batt.

He added that the live tree was delivered Tuesday, and decorating began Wednesday, so the tree will be finished in time for the lighting ceremony. ▼

Donations may be sent to 1996 Holiday Tree Fund, c/o Merchants of Upper Market and Castro, 2336 Market Street, Suite 7, San Francisco CA 94114.

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Judge dismisses case of HIV testing in city office

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco Superior Court judge last week ruled that a gay man who claimed to have been tested against his will for HIV while working for the San Francisco Medical Examiner had no basis on which to file a lawsuit.

Superior Court Judge David Garcia granted a motion of summary judgment for the City and County of San Francisco Monday, November 18, ruling that there was no evidence to suggest a pattern of harassment based on a perceived disability against plaintiff John Overman.

Overman alleged that he was tested for HIV in 1994 against his will while working at the Medical Examiner's office, after initially agreeing to a blood test for occupational exposure to hepatitis virus.

Garcia instead ruled that Overman consented to the drawing of his blood, and remained silent when notified that he would be tested for HIV.

"Thus," the judge ruled, "defendants did not violate plaintiff's right against unreasonable search and seizure under the Fourth Amendment."

Deputy City Attorney Mark Mosely told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Garcia considered the evidence in a light most favorable to

Overman, but said because the evidence didn't merit the charges the judge decided that a reasonable jury would find there was no case.

The incident involving Overman took place in 1994, a year before a 1995 California law was passed that requires written consent for such kinds of HIV testing.

According to San Francisco Medical Examiner Boyd Stephens MD, the department routinely offers completely voluntary HIV tests to employees, who must now

provide written consent.

However, the Medical Examiner is required to test employees who work closely with the deceased or their personal property for hepatitis viral infection, according to law.

Stephens said that Overman's claims surfaced in response to a disciplinary matter related to his employment.

Overman's attorney Paul Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he planned to appeal the decision. ▼

ACT UP/GG benefit coming

by Cynthia Laird

ACT UP/Golden Gate is hosting its fifth annual "Dr. Andrew Zysman Memorial Benefit" next Sunday, December 8 in San Francisco, with awards being presented to three individuals for their outstanding achievements.

The event, consisting of a champagne luncheon, silent auction, and the awards ceremony, raises about 25 percent of the group's annual budget. ACT UP/Golden Gate works on HIV/AIDS treatment issues and breast cancer advocacy. Members emphasized they are not affiliated with the group calling itself ACT UP/San Francisco.

Zysman, for whom the benefit is named, was a prominent AIDS physician and activist with ACT UP/Golden Gate. Zysman's efforts to forge a strong working relationship between local AIDS physicians, researchers, and activists succeeded in creating a strong alliance between these communities that continues three years after his death, noted ACT UP/Golden Gate member Michael Lauro, volunteer coordinator for the benefit.

This year, after enjoying a fabulous gourmet meal, vintage wines, and the world-famous chocolates of Alfred Schilling, and participating in the silent auction of hundreds of items, the volunteer organization will celebrate its recent victories and honor some of those who have helped.

Recipients of the AIDS activist awards this year include San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano, as the Community Activist of the Year. Ammiano helped the group

win viral load testing, an improved standard of care, and other concessions from Kaiser Permanente. Dr. Mary Romeyn will receive the Physician of the Year award for her work with the group helping win federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of human growth hormone and a price cap on the drug. Dr. Peter Lurie, a distinguished AIDS researcher who has fought tirelessly for needle exchange, will receive the group's Researcher of the Year award.

"I've attended plenty of fundraisers," said ACT UP/Golden Gate supporter Sari Staver, "but I never get the bang for my buck that I do at the Dr. Andrew Zysman benefit. Every year, I enjoy world-class food, desserts, and entertainment, do most of my holiday shopping, and enable a very successful, all-volunteer AIDS organization to continue its important work."

Numerous physicians, researchers, political leaders, and activists will be in attendance, Lauro said.

"We don't take money from government or industry. We rely on our community to support us in our efforts and allow us to continue operating," Lauro said. "Our organization is growing, and we're doing more work than ever. We need our community's support now more than ever." ▼

The luncheon will be from noon to 3 p.m. at Alfred Schilling's Chocolate Restaurant, 1695 Market Street (at Valencia). Donations start at \$100. For reservations or more info, call Lauro at (415) 252-9200.

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GodFather Service Fund gets \$5K from bank

by Cynthia Laird

Ask Larry Cook, treasurer of the GodFather Service Fund (GSF) and a finalist of Wells Fargo Bank's President's Award for Community and Education Volunteers, and he will tell you that happiness can be found in something as simple as a bear hug.

"The gratitude that we receive when we give a patient a teddy bear is astounding," Cook said.

Cook's dedication to the GSF has given him the honor as a finalist in the President's Award for Community and Education Volunteer Program sponsored by Wells Fargo Bank. The award program recognizes bank employees who improve their communities through volunteer work by making a financial contribution to the employee's nonprofit group.

This year the bank donated \$100,000 to 59 nonprofit organizations in the bank's ten-state territory.

Cook's award of \$5,000 went to the GSF, a nonprofit organization that for the past 12 years has provided direct support to AIDS and HIV patients in San Francisco and the Bay Area. The organization provides robes, slippers,



GSF treasurer Larry Cook.

toiletries, and teddy bears to hospitalized AIDS patients throughout the year.

During the holidays, GSF throws parties and provides gifts at hospitals and hospices.

Cook, who serves as treasurer of the GSF, has also organized and assisted in fundraising for the group. He attends events throughout the week and on weekends.

"What motivates me to continue the work for the GSF is the knowledge that we make a differ-

ence in the lives of the people we touch," said Cook, assistant vice president of corporate network services for Wells Fargo. "Many of the people we help have been forgotten or abandoned. We're there regardless of their circumstances."

Cook said that many AIDS patients are admitted to the hospital directly from an outside clinic, or are hospitalized in an emergency, and have no chance to gather even the most basic needs for their stay.

"Many patients simply do not own simple items such as robes or slippers," he explained. "We provide those items to the patients, as well as a little bit of comfort, love, and laughter to those who need it."

Cook said he spends about 15 hours a week volunteering for the GSF. He also helps in raising money for other organizations, including Project Open Hand, the AIDS Emergency Fund, the Larkin Street Youth Center, and others.

"It's easy to say that I leave my Wells Fargo job and then go to my second job, which is to support the community," he said. ▼

For more information about the GodFather Service Fund, call (415) 565-4433.

SF lesbians show gay life data day to day

by Dennis Conkin

Full of fun facts, lesbian and gay history, information, and trivia, the 1997 "365 Day Gay and Lesbian Calendar" is hot off the presses and in bookstores and other shops just in time for the holiday season.

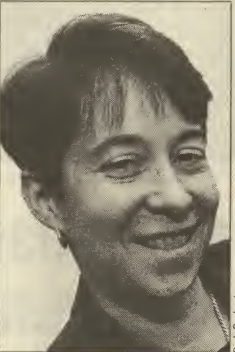
The first-ever calendar of its kind was developed and designed by Cynthia Goldstein and Gloria Shaffer, a San Francisco lesbian couple, and is the culmination of months of research and development after Goldstein got a sudden flash of inspiration one day while at work at the San Francisco Human Rights Commission.

"I was standing in the doorway of a co-worker, waiting for her to get off the phone," Goldstein told the B.A.R. She noticed a day calendar of quotes by women on the co-worker's desk and wondered why there wasn't a similar kind of calendar for the lesbian and gay community.

"That old light bulb went off in my head," she laughed. "But it's been a joint project all the way."

Goldstein said that while she and Shaffer have had other ideas for such products for the lesbian and gay consumer, the calendar is the first to make it past the discussion stage. The women developed and sent samples to about a half-dozen calendar companies, but didn't get much response.

"I wasn't really too surprised," she said, although she added, "I had hoped that some of the bigger companies would see that there was a market for this kind of product, and consumers who



Cynthia Goldstein.

would buy this kind of thing.

"A few months later I got a phone call from Pomegranate" Calendars and Books, a Rohnert Park, California company marketing some 190 other 1997 calendars, notecards, posters, art magnets, journals and other items.

The effort targeting the lesbian and gay niche market, as well as some general bookstores, is a first for Pomegranate, but according to Goldstein, it may not be the last.

She said a third of the 100 gay specialty stores that were pitched the product around the country called with orders the very first week it went on sale, and it's now selling well.

"There's a lot of potential," she said, "and we're actually talking about other items."

Variety of entries

Some of the calendar's pages

report a historical fact, others quiz the reader with a simple question, and still others note birthdays and deaths. Throughout the year it reveals that the Lesbian Avengers were the first activist group to include fire-eating as their dramatic trademark; that artist Frida Kahlo was bisexual; that Beatles manager Brian Epstein was gay; that two women protesters hit anti-gay televangelist Jerry Falwell in the face with two fruit-filled pies in 1982; and more than 350 other bits of factual ephemera.

Some entries are just for fun. For example, the very first, on January 1, contains Elton John's quip about the British royal family on David Letterman's television show: When asked "Do you enjoy socializing with the royal family?" he replied, "What can I say, Dave? Two queens together?"

Goldstein said that as they created the calendar, she and Shaffer made sure to include facts about diverse elements of the lesbian and gay community, including people of color and bisexual and transgendered individuals.

"We did a lot of research. We spent a lot of time in the library and bought a few books," she said.

And, she stresses, the calendar is not just for discerning lesbians and gays to give each other. It's also a useful and educational tool for parents, relatives, and straight friends. ▼

The 1997 365 Day Gay and Lesbian Calendar is available in several local outlets, including Does Your Father Know and A Different Light Bookstore.



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Volume 26, Number 48
28 November 1996PUBLISHER
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Bay Area Reporter

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San Francisco, CA 94103
415.861.5019 • 415.861.7230

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No more marking World AIDS Day

Of all the commemorative days devised worldwide, the one we have always hated most is World AIDS Day. Although we understood the intent of the day was to honor and remember those taken by the epidemic, and to continue the pressure on the powers-that-be for a cure, it always ended up depressing the hell out of us. But times have changed.

This World AIDS Day, on Sunday, brings with it something that has been missing before now: the sense that we humans are strong enough, smart enough, and resilient enough to get through anything. The disease that has grown more terrifying every year since 1981 has begun to lose its supremacy, so much so that we can mark this World AIDS Day with more hope than fear – or even anger.

For the past few months Bay Area Reporter readers have been noticing something that shows what we're talking about: the obituaries are steadily decreasing. Some people have even called the B.A.R. to ask if we have begun holding obits: the answer is no. We never have, and never will. As always, we print what we get; we're just getting fewer.

The epitome, or nadir, of the epidemic for us was when we received and printed 37 death notices – over three-and-a-half pages – several years ago. The most we've had so far in 1996 (which is, of course, very nearly over) was 16, and that was in January.

This week, like last week, we have four. And for those who didn't notice, three of the four last week were not AIDS-related.

It's important to acknowledge that simply counting obits is not a scientific study, but it does indicate that something is going our way for now. For visual proof of what we're talking about, look at the graph to the right that lays out the obits in weekly and monthly formats.

Unfortunately – yes, there's an "unfortunately" – an impediment to progress has just surfaced. David Kessler of the Federal Food and Drug Administration has announced he will leave the agency, as Bob Roehr reports on page 26, which seems to have caught the Clinton Administration by surprise. (It shouldn't. We heard it was likely more than a week ago, so we're as surprised at the White House's lack of awareness as we are of its apparent ignorance of other matters of interest to the lesbian and gay community. Like military witchhunts, for example. But we digress.)

Kessler's resignation, following that of AIDS "Czar" Patsy Fleming, could be devastating. Not that Fleming did so much

that she's irreplaceable – nothing could be further from the truth, in fact – but we shudder at the notion of so many empty chairs in Washington, when they should be filled with people looking out for the AIDS community.

The drugs that reached pharmacy shelves when Kessler ran the FDA have played the most significant role to date in reducing the AIDS-related death rate, but they are only the beginning. Or at least, they should be. We hope today's protease inhibitors and NNRTIs are the equivalent of candlestick telephones, and that continued research will come up with improvements on the order of digital cellular hands-free models. The kinks to be worked out of current drugs involve making them less toxic, more bioavailable (Delavirdine, which will probably be approved by the end of the year, is dosed at a dozen pills a day!) and a lot less expensive.

All of which is possible. If we can come to the level we have reached so far, from total ignorance of antiviral therapy, we can certainly improve our knowledge and technology even more, to come up with second- and third-generation inhibitors that will render obsolete what is currently state of the art.

But for that to happen, the FDA must

be run by someone who cares about the problem and is committed to doing something about it. That doesn't mean some exec or former exec or soon-to-be former exec of the pharmaceutical industry – and it's important for Clinton to understand that. The agency needs to be a watchdog of drug manufacturers, not their lapdog.

So this World AIDS Day, whatever else you decide to do – we would recommend getting educated and getting tested among your many options – you might also consider writing the White House to urge a speedy replacement at the FDA (Clinton being notoriously slow about such things) and a replacement that reflects the importance

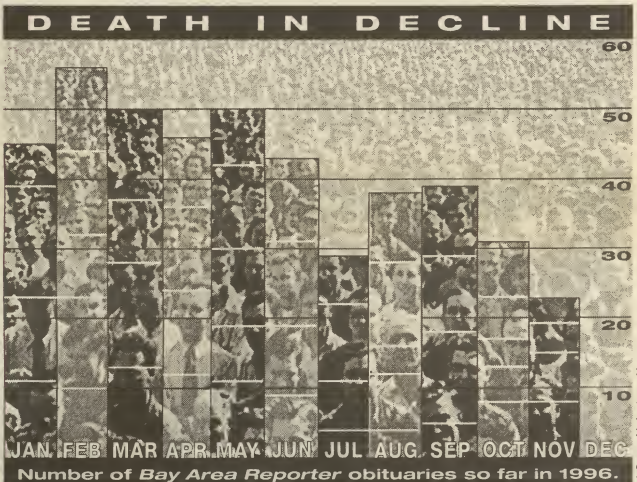
of the post. The White House fax number is: (202) 456-2461; e-mail President@Whitehouse.gov; write 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington DC 20500. Comments may also be telephoned to (202) 456-1111 and (202) 456-1414.

The epidemic is not over, but its end is no longer unthinkable. What is needed is more, not less, commitment now that we are determining that there is light at the end of the tunnel.

We're still looking forward to the year when World AIDS Day is celebrated, rather than simply observed, and we hear the question: "Daddy, what was AIDS?" ▼



Editorial



B.A.R. graphic by Jorge Alonso

Bring back the bathhouses – or relight the restaurants!

by Rene Beauchamp

The shelving of proposed legislation to regulate sex clubs is a mixed blessing at best for the many thousands of us who see sexual freedom as absolutely essential to gay liberation.

Public hearings on the proposed legislation would have provided a forum to challenge the inherently homophobic and reactionary assumptions underlying governmental efforts to control consensual sexual behavior between adults. We may not have the immediate specter of new legislation to contend with, but as the front-page article in the November 14 Bay Area Reporter made clear, we will continue to face repression from the city's Department of Public Health, acting to enforce non-legislated (and therefore not publicly-debated) rules about what we can and cannot choose to do sexually.

Mitch Katz, the director of the DPH AIDS Office, may be gay, but that does not mean he speaks for all or even a majority of gay people, nor does it exempt the DPH's sex club "guidelines" from criticism.

In attempting to justify and explain those guidelines, Katz makes statements which are contradictory and illogical. He says "our issue is making sure sex clubs are safe, not regulating sexual behavior," and makes an analogy with health-related regulation of restaurants. But in order to make sex clubs safe enough to satisfy Katz, the behavior of their patrons must be monitored and controlled.

So for Katz's analogy to hold up, I suppose we will soon be seeing new health department guidelines forbidding dim, romantic lighting in restaurants, so monitors can make sure that everyone is eating a well-balanced meal, and no one is gulping down their food too fast!

Katz also states that there is no city policy against bathhouses per se, but then declares that closed, unobservable cubicles are inherently unsafe and would not be allowed, conveniently ignoring the fact that private rooms are one of the distinguishing characteristics of a bathhouse.

For far too long, the reactionary positions

of a few vocal gays, such as Randy Shilts, Tom Ammann, and Katz, have informed governmental policies relating to public sex venues. It's time for other voices to be heard. Three cheers for Michael Petrelis's comments condemning governmental interference in our sex lives and calling for a reopening of bathhouses in San Francisco.

Those of us who agree with him need to band together and demand to be heard. We cannot expect the association of sex club owners known as the Coalition for Healthy Sex to be proactive in this regard, since their operations comply with the DPH guidelines (or are exempt from them since they exist outside San Francisco) and are making good money as the only game in town; revived bathhouses in San Francisco would surely cut into their business.

Perhaps it's time for the return of the Coalition to Preserve Our Sexual Civil Liberties (which fought the closure of the bathhouses in 1984), renamed the Coalition to Reclaim Our Sexual Civil Liberties. ▼



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Dr. Abrams responds

I would like to take the opportunity to correct some of the misinformation in David Pasquarelli's letter that appeared in the November 7 B.A.R. I do this not to engage in a potentially escalating power struggle with Mr. Pasquarelli and his colleagues, but to provide correct information to your readers who include my patients and my friends.

I am not now, nor have I ever been, the "Head of the FDA Antiviral Committee." I was a charter member of the Antiviral Advisory Committee from 1989 when it was created through 1992. I have not been a member of the committee for the past four years. The record will show that I was probably the most conservative member of the committee, always cautious regarding the approval of new antiviral drugs on the basis of surrogate marker information alone. Most of my colleagues and patients have appreciated that I have been an aggressive critic of the antiviral literature and not an avid supporter of these therapies. It is ironic that ACT UP/San Francisco has chosen on a number of occasions to disrupt meetings where I have attempted to present such views, preventing me from providing a counterpoint to colleagues who may advocate early and aggressive antiviral therapy. Thus, I cannot comprehend how I could be labeled "a long-time antiviral advocate." I have not changed my stance over the past ten years, though Mr. Pasquarelli charges me with committing "a startling about-face." Perhaps this is simply the first time that Mr. Pasquarelli has stayed focused long enough to hear what I have been saying. And now that he understands that ACT UP/San Francisco's views mirror my own to some extent, my reward is to have my photo plastered all over the Castro captioned "Confessions of a Drug Pusher" and to be verbally assaulted crossing the street by their goons seething, "Asshole, keep your hands off people with HIV, Donald."

Can you imagine if we disagreed?

Finally, I would like to clarify Mr. Pasquarelli's comment that I advise my patients not to take protease inhibitors. As my patients know, I am open to whatever interventions they may desire. An increasing number of my patients have chosen to take protease inhibitors and seem to be doing well, thus far. It is true that I personally am not enamored with viral load changes as the goal of treatment; I would like to see therapies that truly prolong survival. I also believe that our clinical experience with protease inhibitors as a class has been very short — less than one year since approval — and I do caution patients with high CD4 counts to wait awhile before jumping on the bandwagon to see if the early surrogate marker benefits persist and translate into clinical improvement as well. This is very similar to the advice I have been giving my patients for the past ten years.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify an amazing amount of misinformation that Mr. Pasquarelli was able to transmit in one short paragraph. ACT UP, FIGHT BACK, FIGHT AIDS: not each other!

Donald I. Abrams, M.D.
Chair, Community Consortium
Assistant Director, AIDS Program
San Francisco General Hospital
Professor of Clinical Medicine
University of California San Francisco

What's going to be on the test?

I am writing in regards to an advertisement that appeared in your newspaper last week about CKR5 Genetic Testing. According to the company's promotional material, this costly test is being misrepresented as a test that can "determine if a positive individual is a slow or non-progressor for the disease. It is possible to determine if a non-positive Caucasian is not susceptible to infection with the virus."

There is no test that can do that.

What limited, preliminary studies have shown is that no one with the double mutation of the CKR5 receptor (also known as CCR5 receptor) has been shown to be infected. This study was only in 1900 people, and the double mutation only occurred in one percent of the Caucasian population and does not occur in non-Caucasian populations. While this may be promising information in the fight against AIDS, no one knows what this exactly means.

A researcher from the Gladstone Institute who talked to ACT UP/Golden Gate was concerned that a person armed with this information could imply that unsafe behavior was not a risk of infection with HIV.

This test is neither anonymous nor may it be confidential. Remember this company knows your name and address and will accept your VISA or MC. How will this information be used? Why should you pay this company so that it can gather information for its own use? This is not a scientific study. The test is not approved by the FDA. This is a company that makes a profit from AIDS!

Buyer beware.

Mike Donnelly
ACT UP/Golden Gate

Glamour and complications

Here's a big loud drag queen "Thank You!" The October 19th fundraising event "Charlotta's Dead: A Celebration and Procession in Couture by Candlelight" was a great success! Thank you to your staff for its support and coverage; to all the fabulous and beautiful people who attended or observed the event; to all the generous souls who worked many hours to pull it together; and to our sponsors whose donations made it possible to have an event at all. We proudly donated approximately \$1200 to the Volunteer Program of Davies Medical Center to buy VCRs for patient and family use.

Unfortunately, one of our glamorous attendees was brutally assaulted at 18th and Collingwood and has been suffering complications ever since. We wish him well and a speedy recovery. We would also like to thank the Hate Crimes Unit of the SFPD for pursuing this fully and with alacrity. If you have any information regarding this incident, please contact Officer Moore at 553-9163.

Charlotta Manure may be dead and waiting at those pearly gates, but the High Brow Society she founded is very much alive and wasting no time putting together next year's party.

We promise you one thing: it's going to be out of this world!

The High Brow Society
San Francisco

Feminist protest misconstrued

This is in response to the article written by Beth Elliott in the Bay Area Reporter of September 12. As the paper refused to interview us or give us equal space for a reply, we are writing this letter to correct her biased and distorted description of our feminist protest.

Ms. Elliott's article mentioned the picketing of Boadecia's Books, a women's bookstore. She stated that a friend of hers had arrived in "sleepy little Kensington to find the store besieged by picketing feminists... on the dubious grounds that consensual S/M is violence against women." According to Ms. Elliott, we were attempting to deny women's freedom of choice of sexual expression.

To clarify, Kensington is not some small hamlet somewhere in the countryside. It borders right on Berkeley. Further, Boadecia's only stocks books which are pro-S/M and pro-porn, despite the availability of many excellent feminist anti-porn books and at least a couple of anti-S/M books — some by local authors. In addition, they had facilitated the formation of a pro-S/M discussion group and made the bookstore available for these meetings. This is one of only four discussion groups that occur at Boadecia's; not surprisingly, discussion groups critical of pornography, S/M, and/or any other form of violence against women are not among these four topics. We interpret these facts as revealing a pro-S/M and pro-porn bias which neglects a large segment of the feminist and lesbian communities.

What the Bay Area Reporter did not report was the fact that we were peacefully walking about on the street with our signs, including our small dog carrying a sign saying "dogs against whips and chains." The women at Boadecia's called the police on us! The police officer who rolled up started being quite belligerent towards us, but after seeing that we were doing nothing to impede the store's normal operations, he turned friendly, and left. He knew what the Boadecia's staff did not — that peaceful picketing is one of our civil liberties!

As for Ms. Elliott, she needs to know that expressing our opinions is not denying anybody anything. Our culture is so full of violence and attempts to make violence "sexy." It is not surprising that some, especially women who have [been] subjugated and raped through the centuries, entertain fantasies of dominance or submission. However, to act upon this in the name of "love" is not erotic; it serves to affirm and legitimizes this violent behavior not only in bed, but everywhere. And, since many relationships are not those in which the partners have equal power, we wonder how "consensual" consensual sex really is.

Ruth Michaels
B.J. Miller
Diana Russell
Berkeley, CA

[Editor's note: Since the dog presumably did not create the sign itself, we wonder how "consensual" its participation was; we think there's a case to be made that it was exploited by a stronger and chauvinistic species — and that you all should be deeply, deeply ashamed.]

A short comment

Willie Brown has spent his entire adult life fighting the "short man syndrome." With his comments about Elvis Grbac, he has finally revealed to the world what he really is, a small man.

Rick Wells
San Francisco

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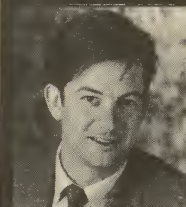
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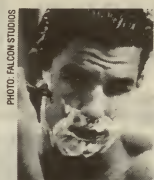
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That would explain why it rhymes...

Paul Thomason's review of Stewart Wallace's and my opera *Harvey Milk* misattributed lines of the libretto. The proud boast sung by the Stonewall rioters ("We are the Stonewall girls/We wear our hair in curls") was in fact invented spontaneously by the young street drags who led the charge that night. This was documented in numerous accounts and reported in *The Village Voice*, which is where I re-discovered it. I can barely imagine how disheartened those brave ladies would have been to learn how badly they transgressed your reviewer's sense of prosody.

Interestingly, most critics and feature writers, both from the mainstream and the gay and lesbian press, managed to make themselves aware of this bit of history. I assume that the editors of the *Bay Area Reporter* are equally cognizant of gay lore, and simply chose to allow Mr. Thomason untrammelled access to his own attitudes.

Michael Korie
Librettist, *Harvey Milk*
New York, NY

Childish and petty

I found myself shaking my head when I read the story "Broker sued for assaulting 'little faggot pussy' co-worker."

Expecting a story about a gay person once again being the victim of discrimination in the workforce, I was instead treated to the story of two immature boys (men don't behave that way) who got into name calling. Jeff Dendy calls his co-worker a "fat fuck" and then screams discrimination when the co-worker calls him a "little faggot pussy."

How childish of both of them and how unfortunate it escalated to violence; they should both be ashamed of themselves. I find it appalling that Dendy calls this a "vicious anti-gay attack" and doesn't see the hypocrisy of it, since he too used an emotionally charged epithet.

Grow up, both of you; and quit clogging our courts with your petty indifferences.

Doug Farson
San Francisco

Harvey Moses

This letter is a response to Paul Thomason's review of *Harvey Milk: The Opera*, which he essentially wrote off as worthless dribble.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* gave the opera rave reviews, and I thought it was a brilliant piece, so I felt compelled to write this letter.

Mr. Thomason missed several major points of the opera. One is the character of Moses, the idea of Harvey Milk being guided as an inspired leader of a troubled people who only serves as a tool to free them but can never see their liberation. His fate is, in a way, sealed. He also misses another central point, which was Harvey's struggle as a Jewish man as well as a gay man, which provided more complexities to his inner turmoil as an oppressed man. Of particular note in the third act is the line, "If a bullet hits my brain let it shatter every closet door," at which point Harvey's taped diary mentioning his premonition of an early death is heard overhead. He then sings a lament of how he wished he had been honest to his mother and he had changed earlier in his life. In my opinion, this was a crucial struggle for him.

I met Harvey Milk when he was working on the Briggs Initiative, and I think he would have been very proud of the opera. It was a fine tribute to him, and the people around me, including an elderly French woman who didn't speak any English, found the opera to be terrific (I translated the main ideas.)

I brought a friend who said he was reticent to go because he felt that opera queens, "these men without wives," rank as the number one snotty bitches of all of those in the ranks of our marginalized community. After reading Mr. Thomason's very sloppy and condescending review, I would agree.

Joseph King
San Jose

Critics and flowers

To respond to critics complaining about flowers, at least Culwell and Galore don't accuse me of working for the Opera.

Most of their complaints are the usual, but to address the new bits: "Squalid clutches of cuttings... weeds" — while daisies (white) and cosmos (lavender) are not the showiest flowers, with the sparkles they do read well, and throw the best. After the opening, when we (the Opera Staudes Association) wanted to recognize every cast member, the flowers will be showier.

"Stood there patiently... stood there with weeds..." — well, if leaping to catch the flowers (their choice) and waving them triumphantly is standing patiently, then I can accept that line. Mr. Alden (the director) did not throw the flowers back at me — they went about ten rows back into the audience. Judging from his expression, he threw the flowers out of exuberance and enthusiasm, not disdain, but the authors might want to check that with him.

The flowers are not thrown for "pathetic self-aggrandizement" (oh, excuse me, that was Ulrich's line), the benefit of the audience, or me. The flowers are for the artists — as a thank you for their performance. Nothing more and nothing less. It does bother me that some audiences seem more interested in the throws and the catches than the performance, but the artists love the flowers and attention, so we continue.

And a general note about the flowers. Most, but not all of the flowers thrown at San Francisco Opera are from the Opera Staudes Association (a group of friends united by our love of opera.) We contribute to our flower fund and purchase the flowers out of it. The decision as to who gets flowers is made by the members, sometimes after vigorous discussion.

As long as we continue to receive positive feedback from the artists (from supers, chorus, Adlers, minor and major singers, to the stars) we will continue our floral tributes.

Robert Parks
Opera Staudes Association

Shark warning

In your Oct. 31, 1996 issue, W. L. Warner has made the very serious accusation that my fiction "depicts torture, castration, and even murder of men as praiseworthy acts for lesbians." This is simply not true. My novel *Doc and Pluff* does contain a scene in which a man who has raped and murdered many women is executed by a group of justice-hungry witches. To describe "an eye for an eye" scene of vengeance is a staple in literature, and hardly constitutes endorsement of mass murder or any sort of hate crime. I would hope that Warner would share my hostility toward rapists, regardless of their gender. Would he be equally lathered-up about fiction that depicted a group of gay men, for example, exacting vigilante justice upon a male queerbashers?

My politics, my life, and my work have in large part been dedicated to building bridges between the gay male and lesbian community and other sexual minorities. This is why I was so startled and upset to see a misogynist cartoon in the *B.A.R.* I assumed we had (most of us, at least) gotten beyond woman- and man-hating. Healthy homosexuality is about loving members of one's own sex, not despising the other. If I was hostile toward men in general or gay men in particular, I never would have authored an advice column for *The Advocate* for more than a decade, nor would I have become the editor for their erotic periodicals for one happy year. As impatient as I sometimes am with sexism, my deep feelings of love, respect, and gratitude to the gay male community for its sexual honesty and courageous activism are unflagging.

Warner seems to be confusing fiction with reality. Yes, the stories I tell are sometimes violent. But this is a valid topic for artistic exploration. All of us, sadly, have enough experience with violence to know it is a significant aspect of our lives. Mainstream fiction abounds with bloody deeds, usually perpetrated against women, gay people, or gender outlaws. If I occasionally turn the tables on our persecutors and give my readers a little imaginary relief from the feeling of being helpless and hunted, well, I will not apologize.

As for the "kettle of fish" Warner so flippantly invokes, I have a warning: Those "fish" may turn out to be sharks. So don't even start to go there.

Pat Califia
San Francisco

Reality in advertising

[The following was sent to Pat Christen, director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation:]

Your organization's vague and confusing full-page advertisement in the November 14 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* begs a few important questions, including: What was the point?

If your organization was attempting to call attention to the tactics of ACT UP/San Francisco, in particular the incident involving the dumping of feline feces on [you], why did the advertisement fail to mention that AIDS activist group by name?

Also, what is meant by the phrase "Outing Violence"? Please explain to me what message was supposed to be conveyed with that phrase.

Since the SF AIDS Foundation is able to purchase full-page advertisements to proclaim it "will not allow HIV to destroy our community," I suggest you start a media campaign to educate gay men about the Reality Female Condom, also known as the anal condom. Gay men who engage in, and enjoy, anal sex must be informed, by the foundation, about the Reality device and how it can be more effective at preventing HIV transmission than a latex penile condom.

Should you decide to promote the Reality condom to gay men, please do so in a precise and explicit fashion. The last thing gay men need from any AIDS education message is obfuscation. Take a stand for the gay male community and our lives by advocating Reality.

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POLITICS

Big Al readies for Gorefest 2000

by Wayne Friday

While Vice President **Al Gore** steadfastly refuses to entertain questions about his presidential ambitions, claiming his first priority is to be a good veep during **Bill Clinton's** second term, Washington political insiders are saying that the "Gore in 2000" effort is already underway, albeit very quietly. These same analysts note that the veep, a former Tennessee U.S. senator, is in a "good" position to capture the Democratic nod to replace his boss four years from now, but add that he'll have plenty of company in that quest.

The Clinton-Gore team hasn't even been sworn in yet, but Gore backers are putting the mechanics into place for the 2000 nomination anyhow. Assuming that Gore maintains both the close personal and working relationship that he currently enjoys with President Clinton, he will almost certainly have Bubba's blessing for the party nomination four years from now.

However, while Gore certainly appears formidable at present, his ascension in 2000 is far from a sure thing. Much of Al Gore's political future depends on how Bill Clinton's presidency goes during his second term. The unknownables, such as the state of the economy four years hence, will help determine the Democratic choice next time around.

While the office of vice president *does* give Gore the benefit of having a fundraising and organizational mechanism already in place, he, as Clinton's right hand, also inherits the ill will and much of the responsibility (by association) for whatever Slick Willie does to displease the populace. In short, Gore, at this point in time, doesn't really control his political fortunes. He'd better say a prayer or two that Billy Jeff doesn't blow it.

Another fact in Al Gore's favor is that Gore loyalists are sprinkled throughout the top ranks of the Clinton administration and the Democratic Party machinery (including one of Washington's most powerful political operatives, Chief of Staff **Ron Klain**). Who might challenge Gore for the Democratic nomination? The names one hears most often are House Minority Leader **Richard Gephardt** and Democratic Party Chairman Senator **Christopher Dodd**. Others who might emerge as possible candidates: Senators **Bob Kerrey** of Nebraska, **John Kerry** of Massachusetts, and **John Rockefeller** of West Virginia, plus outgoing Senators **Bill Bradley** of New Jersey and **Joseph Biden** of Delaware. Then there's the perennial candidate **Jesse Jackson**.

In addition, some expect a candidate from outside Washington — perhaps a promising young governor like Indiana's **Evan Bayh** or even a wealthy businessman in the mold of the Republicans' **Steve Forbes** — to run. One thing is certain; as things stand now, Big Al Gore is clearly the heir apparent at 1600 Pennsylvania



Billy Jeff and Big Al share a moment during the 1992 campaign.

Avenue.

Politics and people

It's all over for Orange County's homophobic Representative **Bob Dornan**. Ranting and raving until the very bitter end, Dornan finally lost his seat by a scant 984 votes, and it couldn't happen to a more deserving "person" (and I use that word loosely). Vanquished by political newcomer **Loretta Sanchez**, the daughter of Mexican

immigrants, he is, predictably, demanding a recount and a House investigation. Nothing like bowing out with dignity, I always say.

You gotta love this guy! **Dennis Rodman**, the lipstick-wearing, hair-dying, nose-piercing basketball star of the Chicago Bulls, is doing a series of television ads for Eastman-Kodak. In one commercial, a soft-spoken Dennis strolls into a thrift store to donate clothes to the needy and shocks the prim proprietor by dumping a box of spiked collars, women's platform shoes, and leather sundries on the counter. No cock-rings spill out, however.

Look for state Senator **Quentin Kopp** to stay as chairman of the powerful Transportation Committee when lawmakers return to Sacramento next month with a new legislature.

Those close to retiring White House Chief of Staff **Leon Panetta** say he won't do battle with Senator **Dianne Feinstein** if she decides to run for governor in 1998, but he would duke it out with Lieutenant Governor **Gray Davis** and whoever else might throw their hat in the ring. No inside info here, but look for DiFi to be a candidate.

Meanwhile, a hot new rumor among Republicans has San Diego Mayor **Susan Golding** an "almost sure" candidate for the GOP slot for the Senate seat now occupied by **Barbara Boxer** in '98. Other Republican possibilities include state Treasurer **Matt Fong** and U.S. Representatives **Chris Cox**, **Dave Drier**, and **Jerry Lewis**.

Famed AIDS researcher **Robert Gallo** opened his laboratory, The Institute of Human Vi-

rology, in Baltimore last week. Gallo predicted that people with HIV will be able to live with it rather than die from it within a few years.

In Montgomery, Alabama last week, the state Court of Civil Appeals sided with **Susan Borden**, a lesbian mother who claims an Etowah County judge's well-known Christian faith makes him a poor choice to preside over her divorce case. The Appeals Court issued an order for the lower judge to step down from the case.

You read it here first (*didn't you?*): **Sharon Stone** will play the lead in the long-delayed screen version of **Larry Kramer's** *The Normal Heart*.

A group of prominent Los Angeles African-American Democrats, ranging from **Magic Johnson** to County Supervisor **Yvonne Brathwaite Burke**, recently announced their support for Republican Mayor **Richard Riordan's** re-election.

Also, Representative **Maxine Waters** of LA was selected last week by the influential Congressional Black Caucus to be its 1997 chairperson. Some of the 37 members of the group are reportedly less than thrilled. (Waters is famous for jumping into congressional dust-ups; some of her detractors deridingly call her the "Bob Dornan of the left.")

Several readers swear they spotted **James Carville** and his wife **Mary Matalin**, America's best-known dueling political partners, holding hands at Market Street's Mecca last week.

A "close friend" of former Insurance Commissioner, former state Senator **John Garamendi** (now a low-level bureaucrat in the Clinton cabinet) tells me that the perennial candidate for some office is "seriously thinking" of coming back from Washington to run again for governor in '98. Let's all yawn at once now!

You know just how bad things are in Washington when a D.C. source recently told me that Representative **Sonny Bono** (R-Palm Springs) has been appointed to the House Intelligence Committee! Anyone care to explain that one to me?

Venomous in Victory Dept.: Proving that even winners can be less than gracious, Supervisor **Michael Yaki**, still smarting from losing the Milk Club endorsement in the last election, put Milk Club President **Jeff Sheehy** on notice that the club is "persona non grata" with the Board of Supes as far as Yaki is concerned. According to Sheehy, a Yaki aide then told Sheehy, one of our community's more effective leaders, that he should expect a real fight to deny him re-election as club president in January. (Damn, think what might have happened if Yaki had actually lost his re-election bid!)

I certainly hope to see all of you tonight at the annual Candlelight March honoring the lives and commemorating the deaths of Supervisor **Harvey Milk** and Mayor **George Moscone** 18 years ago. The march starts at 6:30 p.m. at 575 Castro (the site of Milk's old camera shop, now the Skin Zone) between 18th and 19th, and then heads down Market to 8th Street to end in front of the Orpheum Theatre, where the opera *Harvey Milk* is currently playing. ▼

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Got Milk?

by Beth Elliott

With so many writers commenting on the emotional wallop packed by watching the opera *Harvey Milk* two blocks from the scene of the Milk/Moscone assassinations, who would want to up the ante with even more emotional connections? Nobody in their right mind, I'm sure. Now, if that suggests to you I'm going to go ahead and do so anyway, well, you're half right. I couldn't help getting it with both barrels – actually, the whole clip.

Unfortunate imagery, I know, but somewhat suggestive of the intensity of my experience. I watched the operatic re-enactment two blocks from City Hall and four blocks from the Classifieds Department at the *San Francisco Chronicle*, where I was working a temporary copy editing assignment and therefore well-positioned to catch the news as it spilled over from the City Desk to splash like cold water on the faces of everybody in the office.

And I was watching it in the Orpheum Theatre, in which I can't set foot without remembering just how long I've been going there (from, like, about age six or so, for the first of the Cinema movies. My mother and I

grabbed milkshakes afterward at the little food stand nestled in the theatre building.) I couldn't help thinking of how far beyond my imagination the assassinations, their political meaning and effect, and the fact of their being the subject of an opera actually were. Not to mention being struck by the fact that the 20th anniversary of the assassinations will be on us before we know it.

Emotional wallop

I have to assume most of the emotional wallop seeing an opera on the life of Harvey Milk packed for me was contextual: the evocation of an era in which I participated and the life of such a symbolic gay figure treated like any other opera plot – namely, taken seriously enough to make for strong performances. Modern opera (meaning post-diatonic scale opera) too often has uninteresting music. The composers sometimes free themselves from melodic conventions to the point that the tunes do not convey the emotions behind the words. What worked in *The Death of Klinghoffer* didn't work here, especially when the vocal lines messed with the flow of speech (concept here, guys: *singspeil* – sung speech.)

Other than that, a lot of the depictions were really powerful: entrapment in Central Park, the Stonewall Riots, the flourishing of an above-ground gay culture in, like, a neighborhood of its own in the wake of sodomy law repeal (for which you're most welcome – I'm proud of having had a hand in that), and a Freedom Day Parade ending with a

story memorialized in Western culture and therefore available for the world to share.

Collective heritage

Which means this queer legend already no longer belongs to us. Seeing four baritones in drag singing "We are the Stonewall girls" – and seriously, *not* for camp value – made this undeniable to me. I know that will be upsetting to some folks, pulling the rug out from under their need to feel special for being queer. But there is a matter-of-fact dignity in this.

Harvey Milk didn't strike me as being controversial opera. It struck me as being opera: one more story that's part of a collective heritage without the hoopla of "Ooh, here's a gay theme," as in unusual, outside the daily experience of ordinary people. As in, outside any need to prove how different we and our lives can be, as

opposed to just one more wrinkle in real life.

Pity that this will catch some queer folk unaware and challenge them to dignity in daily life. That's what a lot of the we're different/we're like other folks (yawn!) alleged debate comes down to, doesn't it? That some people can't prove to themselves they're different (and therefore okay, or hopefully superior) without acting like flakes. Their attempts to raise San Francisco to an archetype of eccentricity forgets one historical fact: San Franciscans have always prided ourselves on being unique and having what it takes to assimilate.

Think about it: what brought opera to San Francisco so early in



Sapphistication

It may not be much of a stretch for the San Francisco Opera Chorus, which has sung in various states of nudity as dictated by plot and production, to portray drag queens, gay disco bunnies and leather people (the program lists four singers as 'sodomasochists').

spotlight on an overwhelmed Dan White backed into the rear corner of the set. Although it may not be much of a stretch for the San Francisco Opera Chorus, which has sung in various states of nudity as dictated by plot and production, to portray drag queens, gay disco bunnies and leather people (how often does one read a program in which the cast lists four singers as "Sodomasochists?"), I was struck by how matter-of-factly they did so (and pleased at the accuracy on how early '70s lesbians looked – neither crunchy nor butch).

This spoke of the extent to which the elevation of Harvey Milk to an archetypal figure has already occurred and the extent to which this work just might cement it. If this opera finds a place in the repertoire and is performed decades hence (like if the music were better), Harvey, the early days of gay liberation and San Francisco's population transformation of the 1970s will be a

its history? The desire of successful miners, etc. for culture and dignity that would pass muster among all the great cities. We've always wanted it both ways. And we've always had it both ways, despite attempts from some on all sides to polarize transient and pre-transient populations.

In *Harvey Milk*, Dan White sang about the people he saw being displaced from Eureka Valley – "people who follow the Forty-Niners and know the lineup at Candlestick Park." Well, there are a lot of people, people whose Bay Area roots run that deep and more, who follow the Forty-Niners and know the lineup at Candlestick Park, etc., etc., and are proud to be gay. You're reading a column written by one of us. Those of us who saw *Harvey Milk* likely had to deal with seeing an opera based on events from our lives. No doubt we felt that intensely, then took it in stride – it's a very San Francisco thing. ▼

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Boyz 'n' the (parent) hood

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

Dear Dr. LeVay: I saw a movie where Arnold Schwarzenegger got pregnant and had a baby. Was that for real? Signed, Ever Hopeful in Boystown.

Dear Hopeful: Actually, not. But your question brings up the facts of reproductive biology, and how gay and lesbian parents need some help from science.

When queer couples decide to raise a family, they're up against a problem, which is this: two men or two women can't make babies. Not once, in the entire timespan of mammalian evolution, has a creature been born from the genetic union of two males or two females. It's always been a male and a female—that's just the way Nature intended it. Which doesn't mean that we can't do better.

Lots of same-sex couples would like to be the real biological parents of their child or children. It's obvious from the "next-best" strategies people often use. Gay male couples sometimes mix their sperm before insemination—as if their DNA is going to magically blend together and produce a "two-father" child. (No such luck.) Lesbians sometimes use a close male relative as the sperm donor. Not a bad idea, but even if the donor is your brother, his DNA is still only going to be about 50% the same as yours. And the other 50% codes for those obnoxious traits that make you glad you don't see your brother

from one Thanksgiving to the next.

Real same-sex parenting is not something that could be achieved next week. It's a very tricky scientific challenge. But in the context of the revolution in biology that is happening right now, it's not an unrealistic goal for the future, if people want it badly enough.

Up until now, embryos have always been formed by the union of a sperm (supplied by a male) and an egg or ovum (supplied by a female). Both the sperm and the ovum provide DNA, but the ovum provides much more: it's the house, as it were, in which the embryo grows, a house which is constantly being subdivided and re-modeled during the early stages of development. An ovum is absolutely essential. A sperm? Well, perhaps not so essential.

With a lesbian couple, same-sex parenting would work like this. Each woman provides an ovum. The nucleus of one ovum (the part that contains the DNA) is removed and inserted into the other ovum, taking the place of the sperm nucleus that normally inserts itself during fertilization. The fertilized ovum would then be implanted in the woman it came from, and voila!—a same-sex pregnancy. With a gay male couple, an unrelated woman donates an ovum. The nucleus, containing the woman's DNA, is removed, and the nucleus from one

of the men's sperm is put in its place. Then, the ovum is fertilized by the other man's sperm, and it is re-implanted in the woman's uterus.

It may sound easy, but there are major problems. No one yet knows how to make the nucleus of an ovum act like the nucleus of a sperm, once it's inside the other ovum. Nor how to make the nucleus of a sperm act like the nucleus of an ovum.

Also, some genes are chemically labeled as coming from the mother or the father—a process called "imprinting." These labels would have to be changed, otherwise the resulting embryo would be defective. Finally, there are problems with the sex chromosomes.

Without further tinkering, two women could only produce girls, because neither of them possess the Y chromosome that makes embryos male. Two men could produce both girls and boys, but they could also produce embryos with an abnormal set of sex chromosomes. It would be necessary to screen the individual sperms, to make sure the right combination of sex chromosomes was used. But this would have the bonus of letting the couple choose whether to have a son or a daughter.

As I see it, all these challenges can be met, given sufficient effort. If we can put a man on the moon, we can have one-sex parenting. So get on the phone to your elected

officials, and tell them you want it made a national priority.

In fact, while we're looking into the crystal ball, let's look a little further ahead—to the day when men really can have babies à la Schwarzenegger. All it would take would be a uterus transplant (Arnold skipped that part), a sprinkling of hormones, and a C-section after nine months. It won't happen next year, but perhaps within the shelf-life of embryos now frozen. ▼

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996) and the co-author (with Elisabeth Nolas) of *City of Friends*. He is also the co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of this publication or at SLeVay@aol.com.

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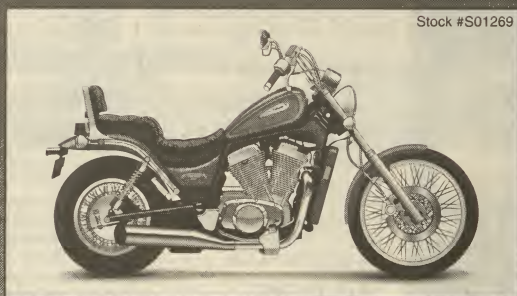
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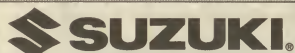
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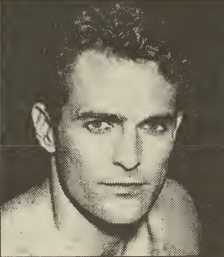
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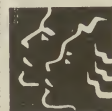
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Papers ask 'Will the real predator please stand up?'

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource
center manager

The Army's action against sexual predators in the military is drawing attention to President Clinton's policies regarding gays in the military. Bringing the issue to scrutiny are the editors of both the *Courier Post* (Cherry Hill, New Jersey) and the *San Francisco Examiner*. The November 17 *Courier Post* featured a two-panel editorial cartoon where a Neanderthal of a military officer spouts the tired rhetoric, "We in the Army have fought for years to exclude gays 'cuz we got no room for perverts..." and continues in the next panel with him saying, "Right, sugar cheeks?" while smacking a female soldier's derriere.

The *Examiner* editorial starts out with the bold headline of "End the hypocrisy," then questions how senior officers could have been unaware of continuing abuses against women soldiers. It links the sexual misconduct charges with President Clinton's "don't ask, don't tell," noting that, under the policy, "male and female homosexuals are obvious targets for harassment, blackmail and worse. If sexually harassed, how can a secretly gay or lesbian soldier file a complaint and testify without coming out of the barracks closet?"

If so, the complainant is booted out of the military. This is not only unfair but stupid. As the Aberdeen scandal shows, the military has plenty of heterosexual problems to occupy it."

Give thanks to the editors of these publications for a reasoned voice on gays in the military.

Contact: Skip Hidley, Managing Editor, *Courier Post*, P.O. Box 5300, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034, fax: 609.663.2831, e-mail: couriernj@aol.com; Phil Bronstein, Editor, *San Francisco Examiner*, 110 Fifth Street, San Francisco, CA 94111, fax: 415.512.1264, e-mail: sfxaminer@examiner.com.

Blade takes a stab at intolerance

John Ritter has come a long way since he "played gay" for Mr. Roper on television's *Three's Company*. In the new film *Sling Blade*, Ritter portrays Vaughan, a quiet, sensitive gay man. In it he worries about the safety and future of his battered best friend, and her young son, Frank, who has just befriended the film's main character Karl (Billy Bob Thornton), a developmentally disabled man released from an asylum after 25 years. At first Vaughan worries about his "family's" safety because of Karl's past, but comes to recognize their common concern for Frank and his mom over the actions of her abusive boyfriend. The difficulties of being gay and living in a small, Southern town are also explored.

Reviews have noted Ritter's strong, "image-breaking" performance. *Sling Blade* makes many important statements about the notions of family and the boundaries of love, none as important as the one it makes about Vaughan and his ability to be a good role model for young Frank. At film's end, it is made clear that family and parenthood should be defined by the love and support that people have for one another, not by sexual orientation.

Please thank Miramax for letting Ritter's quiet Vaughan shine with warmth, sincerity and courage.

Contact: Harvey Weinstein, Bob Weinstein, Co-Chairs, Miramax, 7920 Sunset Boulevard, #230, Los Angeles, CA 90046, fax: 213.969.9840, e-mail: webmaster@miramax.com

'Walk the talk'

In the midst of a public debate over the rights of students at a local high school to write articles on lesbian and gay issues for their school paper, the *Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph* featured an op-ed on November 18 that makes an appeal against censorship.

"Finding True Love," an article published recently in Palmer High School's *The Lever*, probes the difficult process of coming out, and has prompted the District 11 School Board to consider an editorial policy that would, as Board President Kent Olvey stated, "reflect the traditional Judeo-Christian, heterosexual standard." F. Mike Miles, vice chairperson of the Pikes Peak Human Relations Coalition Board of Directors, writes in the *Gazette Telegraph*

that "Intolerance starts by repressing information about the issues; hatred grows from denying that a group of people, like homosexuals, share in our constitutional democracy. Democracy does come hard. If you believe in the Bill of Rights, then you must accept the freedom of expression for both Colorado for Family Values and the gay community."

At the end, Miles sums up the Human Relations Coalition's stance for freedom: "The board hopes that District 11 will

demonstrate true leadership and make an unequivocal statement supporting the rights of homosexuals to express their views. We are not a hate city, and it is time to 'walk the talk.'"

Please thank the *Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph* for including this illuminating and concise op-ed, and urge the newspaper, as an older sibling to Palmer High's *The Lever*, to take a stand for the freedom of the press and support the students' rights to free expression.

Contact: Colorado Springs *Gazette Telegraph*, P.O. Box 1779, Colorado Springs, CO 80901, fax: 719.636.0202, e-mail: gtnews@usa.net.

Washington Post has a dream

The November 20 edition of the *Washington Post* featured an in-depth article entitled, "Every Girl's Dream," about the wedding of a lesbian couple. The story takes a look at the lives of Angela Powell and Elise Young in the exciting and sometimes frantic days leading up to their wedding, along with some of the twists along the way. Elise's parents e-mail her letters from Hawaii to let her know that they support her and will attend. Angela's Southern parents, who have always been supportive of her, surprise and disappoint her by refusing to come.

The article illustrates the many ways in which lesbians and gay men creatively circumvent legal marriage with weddings and commitment ceremonies. "Their wedding won't change their legal status," the article states. "Congress passed a bill this fall that in effect bans same-sex marriages under federal law. It authorized states to reject gay marriages performed in other states. But their wedding isn't about joint tax returns, health insurance plans or pension benefits. 'When she gets old, I want to wipe her drool,' says Angela. They want to retire near Disney World. ... This is a marriage."

Please commend the *Washington Post* for a charming, entertaining and sensitive article about same-sex marriage and all of the joys and struggles of relationships and family - gay or otherwise.

Contact: Leonard Downie, Editor-in-Chief, *The Washington Post*, 1150 15th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., 20071, e-mail: webnews@washpost.com. ▼

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Giga-byte me!

by Terry Beswick

Oh. My. God. A sinking feeling settled in a few weeks ago as I gradually realized that, by hook or by crook, I'd somehow managed to position myself as somewhat of an "expert" on all things virtually gay, ostensibly to fill the needs of that small niche of consumers into cyber-queer stuff.

What's really awful about this whole situation is that, as a few thoughtful readers have gently suggested, I am what is known in computer geek circles as a "clueless newbie." And I suppose they're right; I even got suckered into joining America Online when they were still charging by the hour - just because of those irritatingly ubiquitous free disks they keep sending me.

And, yes, it's true, I don't even have my own Web page. I'm so ashamed.

Still, personally, I think "clueless" is a poor choice of terminology coming from a bunch of pasty-faced math club nerds who never even saw the movie. I mean, Alicia Silverstone was anything but "clueless" about computers. I watched in envy during that little scene when she selected her outfit for the day, mixing and matching her plaids and solids with the same insouciance I used to enjoy with my Barbie, but adeptly utilizing a menu-driven interactive inventory of her entire wardrobe on her full-color monitor!

Don't get left behind

Unlike Alicia, though, I did not have a laptop in my crib. I've never even taken a course in com-

puters. In olden times, when I went to high school in Billings, Montana half my life ago, there was a room on the third floor known as a "computer lab," where geeks signed up to fool around with these big clunky things that spewed out reams of incomprehensible gibberish. Although I didn't know it then, my best friend, a strange, thin, bespectacled adolescent by the name of Tim Sos, was one of the first computer junkies of all time.

By virtue of our friendship, I knew that computer networks existed even then, if only between the

such intensity on these primitive abstractions. (This was in fact my first clue, if you will, that I liked brains better than brawn... Life can be so lonely).

But in time it became clear that Tim Sos loved his stupid little machine more than he loved me, and he disappeared into that dusty old Computer Lab, never to be seen again. :-)

Although computers did offer a degree of mystery back then, I ultimately could not understand what they had to do with my life, my hopes and ambitions, which then as now revolved chiefly

bloody fuss is all about. I hate feeling left out, and one way or another, I will get plugged in!

Learn the jargon

Queerly enough, I must report that at this juncture I suspect I may be failing miserably. But I have endeavored very seriously to at least learn what all the jargon means, so I can speak with some degree of intelligence on these matters, and also help prevent other innocent homosexuals from

photo of yourself. Just in case someone asks you for your "GIF" online, you should go to Kinko's as

soon as possible and scan a naked self-portrait onto a disk so you can upload it promptly if asked.

Uploading: This is a new technique that involves attaching a GIF to an electronic-mail message. You should practice your uploading technique by sending your GIF as an e-mail attachment to Wired2BGay@aol.com. I will download it for you.

Downloading: This is an important encoding procedure that must be performed on all new GIFs to prevent them from being sent all over the planet via the World Wide Web. To protect your privacy, I will download your GIF at no charge. :-)

Baud: Not sure what this is, but I know you'll want lots of 'em for my all-important instant gratification. Don't keep mama waiting! Get a modem with 28,800 bauds.

RAM: This is another thing you'll want lots of. With a hard drive. As often as possible. Now. (Aren't you glad you have me to tell you these things?)

Byte: You'll want a fair amount of these, too. In fact, you'll want to get at least one gigabyte, which is like a zillion bytes, before you can effectively Upload, use Bauds, or get RAMed.

What else do you need to know?

Next time, let's go shopping! ▼

Comments and hot tips to: Wired2BGay@aol.com

I suppose it's not surprising that I developed somewhat of a crush on Tim, peering over his shoulder, watching him focus his little budding nerd left brain with such intensity on these primitive abstractions. My first clue I like brains over brawn.

high school and the university.

I was also vaguely aware that Tim Sos was emotionally as well as intellectually pre-occupied with feeding various strange sequences of verbiage into these monitor-less grey terminals, and that he exacted a certain erotic payoff when the thing responded with a clunk-a-chunk, clunk-a-chunk, and a torrent of seemingly nonsensical alphanumeric codes gushing out all over the floor.

I suppose it's not surprising that I developed somewhat of a crush on Tim, peering over his shoulder, watching him focus his little budding nerd left brain with

around becoming the next Judy Garland. Stereotypical, yes, but also true.

Now of course I wish I'd followed Tim Sos into that vortex. He was a visionary, and I'm sure he's making millions somewhere programming interactive virtual sex games or something. Instead, I'm left floundering around by myself on the Internet, the Usenet, the Web, whatever. There's no isolation worse than knowing you're alone in the middle of a teeming virtual city.

So today, I'm just trying to catch up enough with the technology to figure out what the

getting ripped off.

I know that there must be many more virtual queers just like me out there who are anxious to take full advantage of what the Age of the Net has to offer, and are also worried about all the scam-artists who want to steal their credit card numbers and Internet passwords. So I have put together a little glossary of geek-talk for your greater edification as you prepare to do your Christmas shopping.

Thusly, what follows is a Queer Newbie Glossary 101:

GIF: "GIF" stands for "Graphics Interchange Format," but by now it just seems to mean a naked

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Rikki Streicher Woman of the Year
Man of the Year
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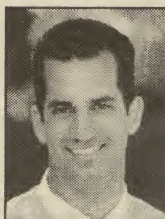


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New name, exec director for Living Well/Asian AIDS Project

by Rene M. Astudillo

The recently merged organization composed of the Living Well Project and Asian AIDS Project has unveiled its new name – The Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center: Community HIV/AIDS Services. The new agency, with a combined total budget of close to \$2.5 million and a staff of 45, was formalized after extensive negotiations that began several years ago. The merger is aimed at consolidating AIDS services targeting APIs in San Francisco, and meeting the ever-increasing community needs under a continually changing funding environment.

The new organization seeks to provide HIV/AIDS education, support, and prevention programs and to empower, assist, and enhance the lives of those living with HIV/AIDS in the Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

The Wellness Center also announced the hiring of its new executive director, John Manzon-Santos, who is currently the executive director of the Asian & Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS (APICHA) in New York. Manzon-Santos was selected after an extensive nationwide search launched in the summer. He officially assumes the position in January 1997, replacing interim executive director Steve Lew, who earlier this year announced his intention not to renew his contract.

Prior to APICHA, Manzon-Santos was connected with Project Reach, a youth program in New York's Chinatown, and the Rhode Island Project/AIDS, Inc. He was also a founding board member of The Audre Lorde Pro-

ject, a center for lesbian, gay, bisexual, two-spirit, and transgender people of color communities in Brooklyn, New York. This year, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute, and the New York City Comptroller's Asian Pacific American Heritage Award.

'Smart and timely'

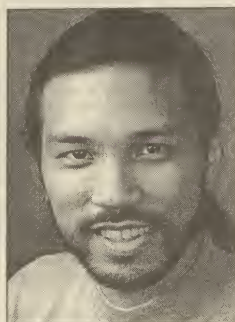
Manzon-Santos sees his new job as a continuation of the organizing work he began more than eight years ago in New York. As executive director of APICHA, he managed a cutting-edge, community-based organization poised to address the fact that AIDS is rising faster among APIs than among any other racial group, with little community or governmental response.

As a significant legacy of his leadership, APICHA will soon open a family-oriented community center in Queens, establishing a physical, programmatic, and political presence in the borough that has both the largest immigrant API communities and the highest rate of rise in API HIV/AIDS cases.

In an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Manzon-Santos said that he was "excited by all the possibilities for the new agency."

"This merger is smart and timely," he said. "Our challenge will be to make sure that this braiding of innovative programs results in the highest quality of services for APIs living with AIDS and HIV."

As executive director of the Wellness Center, Manzon-Santos faces the challenge of meeting the needs of a large API population in San Francisco, which, according to the 1990 Census, stands at more than 200,000. Providing appropriate services to this population is especially challenging because of



John Manzon-Santos.

the many ethnic groups as well as the diversity of culture and language – not to mention the different levels of acculturation – within the API community.

According to the latest surveillance report from the San Francisco Department of Public Health AIDS Office, there are more than 500 cases of AIDS among APIs in the city and county. Hundreds more are known or suspected to be HIV-infected. Of the total API AIDS cases, 36.6% are among Filipinos, 27% among Chinese, and 13.8% among Japanese. The rest are among Southeast Asians, Koreans, Pacific Islanders and South Asians.

Both the Living Well Project and Asian AIDS Project have been providing services and HIV prevention interventions targeted at gay and bisexual men who make up almost 85% of the total API AIDS cases. Services have also been directed at API youth, women, transgenders, and the general community.

Negotiations are underway to move the API Wellness Center's offices into a single location in the Tenderloin by late winter or early spring. ▽

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EXIT TO PARADISE & RELAX!

UCSF, four other colleges study youths at risk for HIV

by Cynthia Laird

Educational institutions in five states, including the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), have received several million dollars in federal grants to develop programs to reduce the incidence of HIV infection among males ages 15 to 25. The universities will be studying young gay men at risk for HIV in five different projects over two years.

Dr. Kyung-Hee Choi, with UCSF's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS), is the principal investigator locally. She will study HIV infection patterns in young Asian and Pacific Islander gay men.

The other schools taking part in the study, which is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), are the Medical College of Wisconsin's Center for AIDS Intervention Research (CAIR), Georgia State Uni-

versity, the University of Minnesota, and Columbia University in New York.

Dr. Susan Kegeles, an associate professor with CAPS at UCSF, said Choi's study will be important because the group she'll be targeting, young Asian and Pacific Islander gay men, have not been studied much.

"It's really exciting because very little research has been done," Kegeles told the *B.A.R.*

In each city, surveys, focus groups, and interviews will be conducted with as many as 400 young men from bars, coffeehouses, and other community settings. Additional input will be sought from public health professionals and advisory panels of young gay men.

Kegeles said the CAPS program received another CDC grant for about \$200,000 to replicate research on young gay men so that community-based organizations can understand the research that

Marvin Carter talks to the B.A.R.

Project Inform focuses on outreach to communities of color

by Dennis Conkin

From his vantage point as the new outreach and education coordinator of Project Inform, Marvin Carter has a unique perspective on the state of AIDS treatment information available around the country.

And from what he's observed in the four brief months he's been on the job, the 33-year-old Carter says he is especially concerned about making sure communities of color have adequate access to AIDS treatment information.

The concern has been a motivating factor in Carter's years of AIDS outreach work from the beginning, and if there's an urgency to that professional effort, it's based on experience.

His own. Carter is not just a person living with HIV, he's had AIDS-related lymphoma — a virulent cancer of the lymphatic system which frequently spreads throughout the body. After intensive chemotherapy, the cancer has been in remission almost a year.

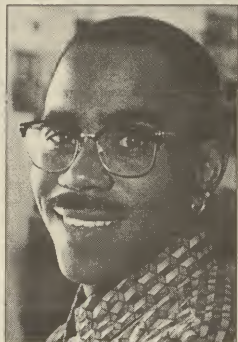
"Every day is a blessing," he said.

Carter told the *Bay Area Reporter* that there are several barriers to accessing accurate and up-to-date treatment and information services in communities of color.

In addition to existing religious and cultural barriers to treatment such as homophobia and a mistrust of non-profit and other social institutions, he said another major barrier is ignorance — service providers and outreach workers often know very little about treatment issues or information resources, and clients suffer.

The fear of exposure is also a serious concern for HIV-positive African-American men in some communities who must worry about the stigma of HIV.

A self-described former "dope addict," Carter knows firsthand about stigma — and uses his per-



PI's Marvin Carter.

sonal story as a message of hope and possibility.

"My work at Project Inform is about empowering people," he said.

Devastated community

Recent statistics released by the Harvard University AIDS Institute reflect the terrible devastation of AIDS in the African-American community around the nation.

According to the HAI, AIDS kills twice as many African-American men between the ages of 25-44 as does homicide; two thirds of all women reported as AIDS cases are African-American; 100 people of color are diagnosed with AIDS everyday in the U.S.; and within four years half of all U.S. AIDS cases will be among African-Americans.

In the few months that he's been at Project Inform, Carter has been to a variety of urban areas around the country, including Cleveland, Dallas, Harlem, Newark, and Phoenix, and he worries that up-to-date treatment information is not reaching people living with AIDS, or their physicians and caregivers.

"The emphasis has been on education and prevention around condom use, but what about providing information that can help

you make choices about treatment?" Carter said.

"In some places, AZT is still the major therapy," he complained.

Carter said that Project Inform outreach and education efforts work to ensure that case managers and providers in community-based organizations and service groups know that such treatment information is available and help them access it.

"There's a lot of misinformation and lack of information about what's available," he said.

Carter also noted that while he is in the business of making sure information about treatment issues and options is available to communities and individuals, he is just like everybody else — and sometimes has questions about his own HIV treatment. Fortu-

nately he knows exactly where to turn.

"I've always used PI as a resource," he chuckled. "When I have questions I talk to Marty or Ben," referring to Founding Director Martin Delaney and Program Services Director Ben Collins. ▼

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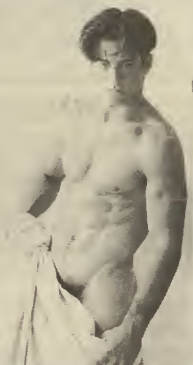


PHOTO BY BARRY MARIN

Rich Gordon launches county supe campaign in San Mateo

by Marv. Shaw

Just when you thought the election season was over, veteran gay Peninsula activist Rich Gordon has announced his campaign for the office of San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. Gordon seeks to replace Ted Lempert, who has been elected to the California State Assembly. Reflecting on his career in the community service area, Gordon, 48, declared in an interview with the B.A.R., "The time is ripe for me to make this kind of change in my life."

Gordon sees his service as an elected member of the San Mateo County Board of Education since 1992 as something of a preparation for the role he now wants to fill. Vowing to bring progressive change to that body, he has been a vital part of altered conditions. He pointed out three achievements.

One is a rapid development of technology in county schools, including a link to Internet. "The board has brought the schools up to speed in this necessary part of present-day education," he declared.

Second was his leadership in saving the schools provided for in-custody youngsters in the county, a facility which was at grave risk of sacrifice because of budget problems.

Third was a factor important to the gay community, the change in language of domestic partnership coverage and medical leave provisions for gay and lesbian county schools employees. Gordon agrees that more needs to be done in this matter, but feels that favorable completion is highly probable.

Gordon has built up a solid reputation as executive director of the Youth and Family Assistance Agency over many years. Asked what in his work experience has contributed most to his preparation for the role of county supervisor, he points immediately to

that job. The agency is a community-based non-profit organization dedicated to assisting as many as 4,000 San Mateo County families each year to meet daily needs and resolve intra-family problems, among other matters.

Working publicly as an out gay man since he took his first employment here as a youth counselor with the Redwood City YMCA in 1976, Gordon still looks upon his public gayness with an important qualification. "I am not a gay politician; rather I am a politician who happens to be gay," he declared in his 1992 campaign.

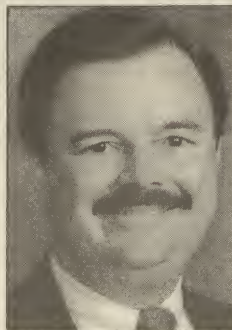
A delicate balance

Now he holds essentially the same identity, asserting the necessity for involvement in a "broad range of issues, not just gay ones." Gordon and his partner, Dr. Dennis McShane, recently celebrated their fourteenth anniversary, and while he feels that he must honestly be publicly a gay man, it is really a matter of "maintaining a delicate balance."

On this matter, however, he gives a deep bow to his political predecessor, Tom Nolan, who "paved the way" for a gay person to be a political success in San Mateo County when he won a County Supervisor seat.

On his personal philosophy for making political, social, and economic efforts work together for the welfare of the whole community, Gordon points to the kinds of partnerships which can really effect worthwhile change. One such is a resoundingly obvious success, MiMe's Cafe, a restaurant in Redwood City which he inspired, with public-private cooperation. The restaurant trains students in various aspects of running such a business, and after only a relatively short time in operation has placed 20 formerly unemployed students in full-time jobs.

Typical of Gordon's involvement in influential civic organizations is his president-elect position of the Redwood City Cham-



Rich Gordon.

ber of Commerce. One achievement that marked him as a skilled promoter of inter-group cooperation — and doubtless contributed to his reputation for executive negotiation — was the campaign by the Chamber's Education Committee to upgrade the libraries in the thirteen elementary schools in Redwood City. Gordon involved the Chamber, the City Council, and the local education establishment in bringing up-to-date the libraries' collections.

"All the players must be at the table," Gordon has declared, and the support he has already gathered is another demonstration of that. Environmental groups, unions, the educational organization and business groups have rallied to his aid.

The exact date for the special election has not yet been set because other matters must be settled first. Ted Lempert will resign from his supervisorship on December 2, when he is sworn in as a new Assemblyman. Then, the remaining four supervisors must meet to select a date. That could be as early as March or as late as June.

The field of contestants is rather thin at this date. Republican Denise De Ville, the director of the San Mateo County Development Association, has declared, as has Redwood City businessman Bob Bryant. Another possible candidate is Betty Stone, a coast-side Harbor Commission member. ▼

Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality honors Phyllis and Del

by Cynthia Laird

Longtime San Francisco lesbian activists Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin received the Outstanding Public Service Award of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality (SSSS) at its 39th international conference held November 14-17 in Houston, Texas.

Dr. Howard J. Ruppel, Jr., SSSS executive director, said the award is based on career achievement and was presented by the society to recognize professionals whose service has had a major impact on human society.

SSSS is an international professional association of sex researchers, clinicians, therapists, and educators. Ruppel said it is the

world's pioneer professional organization for sexuality research.

Lyon, professor emeritus at the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality in San Francisco, co-founded the institute in 1976. It was the first degree-granting institution of higher education in the field of sexology in the United States. She also co-founded the National Sex Forum and served on it for 19 years as associate director and co-director.

Martin published the book *Battered Wives* in 1976. It was updated in 1981 and used as a text in women's studies courses. The book was also used for domestic violence shelter volunteer training. She served on the California State Commission on Crime Control and Violence Prevention for three years.

Norman Lear Productions hired Martin to serve as a consultant for the domestic violence episodes of the television show *Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman*.

Although Lyon and Martin, life partners who both hold doctorate degrees, have demonstrated remarkable public service leadership individually, their greatest contributions have been made together as professional partners, said Dr. Vern L. Bullough, chair of the SSSS awards committee.

"Together they have been involved in and/or led nearly a score of activist organizations dealing with lesbian, gay, and women's issues," Bullough said. "One or the other or both have founded or co-founded many. But probably the most notable of these achievements

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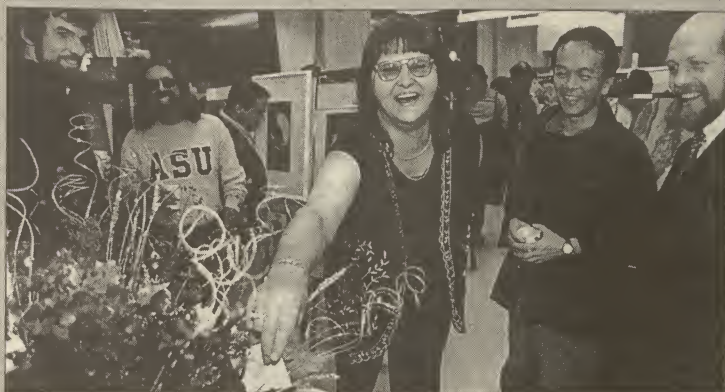


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Sculptor/painter Fran Lewis happily adjusted her *Centerpiece* after it sold for \$200 at the Nov. 21 opening night reception of the annual Continuum Art Show at 10 U.N. Plaza. The show, which featured the work of some 40-plus artists, raised approximately \$4,500 for both the artists and Continuum's art therapy program.

Alternative Family Project expands

by Shan Schwartz

San Francisco's Alternative Family Project is coming out of the closet—literally.

From its origins with just a post office box and a small, cramped office space in a Catholic church basement, the three-year-old AFP now has adequate room for its own programs and is renting out its space for other organizations to hold meetings and events.

The project's "Center for Alternative Families," at 425 Divisadero (between Oak and Fell), Suite 203, doubled its space November 1 and now has separate space for quiet meetings or counseling and for larger community events.

AFP also changed its phone number November 1; the new number is 436-9000.

And if that's not enough change, AFP also has a new director; Marcia Perlstein, who has been on AFP's staff since June 1995, took over as director November 12. She replaces Cheryl Deaner, the AFP's founder, who left to pursue building a new Bay Area coalition.

Perlstein told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the new expanded facility was an exciting development for the organization. Besides now having adequate room for its own counseling and community events, it also has room for child care during events for parents.

AFP is offering some of its space out for rent for other "kindred-spirit" organizations to use for its meetings. The new meeting space has room for 50 people or more.

The organization had serious space woes last year, when it lost its previous office in a church basement and struggled to find a new home. But in the end, Perlstein said, that struggle turned out for the best.

"All bad things turn into blessings," she said. "It turned out to be the best thing that's happened to us. We were in a small space in the church basement with no windows, and now we have our own big facility. We even have a parking lot!"

The expanded facility was made possible in part by two grants received by the project: one from the San Francisco Foundation, which supports development of family counseling services and provides technical assistance for agency planning; and another from the Vanguard Public Foundation, which focuses on building coalitions between alternative families.

Perlstein said AFP's six staff members oversee the project's three objectives: celebrating alternative families, providing information and referrals, and counseling.

"We don't want the right [wing] to co-opt the concept of family," she said. "We're all families, and we create our families in all kinds of ways. We try to celebrate that."

She said AFP works with other traditional family organizations, noting that all families obviously share similar kinds of problems.

The "Information and Advocacy" prong of AFP provides legal assistance for such matters as gay marriage, adoption and surrogate parenting. And AFP's counseling services are extended to individuals, couples, children, and families which have any issues dealing

with gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender individuals.

Perlstein said AFP operates frequently under the "echo phenomena"; that is, AFP creates programs to respond to the calls and requests it receives.

AFP seeks volunteers to assist with its programs, but Perlstein said she wanted potential volunteers to know that any commitment would be finite.

"I don't want them to get burnt out," she said. "We just ask for a minimal, finite commitment, and if they want to do more, that's up to them."

AFP is also in the process of forming a community board, which will meet twice a year to help guide the project's direction and slate of programs.

"We genuinely want advice from the community we serve," Perlstein said. She said anyone interested in serving on the board should call to apply for consideration. ▼

For more information about AFP, call (415) 436-9000. Additional information is also available on the World Wide Web at <http://afp.outathome.org>.



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CHAMP provides medical marijuana in SF

by Liz Highleyman

In the wake of the closure of the Cannabis Buyer's Club (CBC) in August, a new organization — CHAMP: Cannabis Helping Alleviate Medical Problems — began operation on October 31. The non-profit group seeks to provide medical marijuana to those who need it while fostering a community grounded in the philosophy of harm reduction. On November 11, a fundraising party was held to raise seed money for the organization, which is located at 194 Church Street, the previous site of the CBC. The club is currently operating with about 70 members enrolled; a grand opening will be held when renovations are complete.

In addition to the on-site sale of marijuana in smokable and edible form, CHAMP seeks to provide a space where patrons can use their medication in a safe, comfortable, and friendly environment. This is especially important for those who are homeless and those who risk losing their housing if they use marijuana at home. CHAMP also provides free delivery of cannabis to bedridden patients.

In order to become a member of CHAMP, one must have either a letter of diagnosis of a life-



Some of the helpful pot peddlers at CHAMP.

threatening or sense-threatening illness (for example AIDS, cancer, glaucoma, or multiple sclerosis), written agreement from a doctor to monitor the patient using medical marijuana, or a completed physician's statement form provided by CHAMP (doctors cannot legally prescribe marijuana). Doctors will be called for verification. Members must be 18 years old with valid identification, and will be issued a forgery-resistant membership card.

It is unclear how the newly-passed Proposition 215 will affect organizations such as CHAMP, but the group has the support of city officials including Supervisor Tom Ammann and District Attorney Terrence Hallinan. It is es-

timated that between 3,000 and 12,000 people in the city may be eligible to use medical marijuana, and the passage of 215 may encourage a greater number of these people to come forward.

CHAMP co-chair Dr. Vic Hernandez, formerly a medical advisor at the CBC, says "there is nothing mysterious or sinister about marijuana," noting that his grandmother grew and used the herb in a tea to help her arthritis. Business manager Andy Rosenbloom hopes to run an operation in which marijuana sales will cover operating expenses and potentially fund other harm reduction projects. CHAMP's books will be open, and Hernandez stressed that the organization "has no hidden agendas."

CHAMP is staffed entirely by volunteers, and the majority of the materials and work needed to renovate and equip the space — from the first month's rent and furniture to xeroxing services and \$7,000 worth of marijuana — has been donated by supporters.

CHAMP places a heavy emphasis on community building and the idea that a positive social environment is an important part of the medical relief. Rosenbloom envisions an atmosphere similar to the coffeehouses of Amsterdam, where marijuana is legally available for sale. CHAMP encourages members to "do it yourself," and hopes to offer various types of services, support and education groups, and social events. In order to maintain a sense of community, Hernandez expects that once enrollment at the current site reaches a certain level, new CHAMP "branches" will be started in other areas of the city. ▼

Current hours of operation are Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fridays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Intake is also done on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, contact CHAMP at (415) 861-1040.

Lungren's office admits medical pot is 'law of the land'

by Cynthia Laird

In the wake of the passage of state Proposition 215 by voters earlier this month, staffers from Attorney General Dan Lungren's office have told the B.A.R. that the medical marijuana initiative is now "the law of the land," and that they are awaiting a letter from Californians for Compassionate Use (CCU) proposing the two sides work together on the issue.

Steve Telliano, Lungren's press

secretary, said he talked with John Entwistle, CCU treasurer, on Friday, November 15. Entwistle said CCU would be sending the attorney general a letter offering to work together on implementing Proposition 215. Lungren was one of the key opponents of the ballot measure that California voters passed on November 5.

Despite Lungren's vocal opposition to the use of medical marijuana, Telliano said the attorney general's office will work with the law.

"It's now the law of the land,"

Telliano said.

The initiative exempts doctors and their patients from certain provisions of state marijuana laws for purposes of medical treatment.

It also permits patients with "written or oral recommendation" to "possess or cultivate" marijuana for the treatment of AIDS, cancer, or "other illnesses for which marijuana provides relief."

"We need to figure out how best to make the law work in relation to other laws," Telliano told

the B.A.R., adding that Proposition 215 does conflict with federal laws making marijuana illegal and that those conflicts need to be addressed.

Dennis Peron, founder of the Cannabis Buyers Club that was closed following a raid by state agents, and who now faces felony conspiracy charges in connection with selling medical marijuana, said he hopes the attorney general's office will work with medical marijuana advocates regarding the initiative he helped author. ▼

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PRECAUTIONS: As with any parenteral vaccine (1) keep epinephrine available for use in case of anaphylaxis or anaphylactoid reaction; (2) delay administration, if possible, in people with any febrile illness or active infection except when the physician believes withholding vaccine entails the greater risk; (3) take all known precautions to prevent adverse reactions, including reviewing patients' history for hypersensitivity to this or similar vaccines.

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Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Havrix has not been evaluated for its carcinogenic potential, mutagenic potential or potential for impairment of fertility.

Pregnancy Category C: Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with Havrix. It is also not known whether Havrix can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. Give Havrix to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. It is not known whether Havrix is excreted in human milk. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, use caution when administering Havrix to a nursing woman.

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Fully inform patients, parents or guardians of the benefits and risks of immunization with Havrix. For persons traveling to endemic or epidemic areas, consult current CDC advisories regarding specific locales. Travelers should take all necessary precautions to avoid contact with, or ingestion of, contaminated food or water. Duration of immunity following a complete vaccination schedule has not been established.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: Havrix has been generally well tolerated. As with all pharmaceuticals, however, it is possible that expanded commercial use of the vaccine could reveal rare adverse events.

The most frequently reported by volunteers in clinical trials was injection-site soreness (55% of adults; 21% of children); headache (14% of adults; less than 5% of children). Other solicited and unsolicited events are listed below.

Incidence 1% to 10% of injections: Induration, redness, swelling, fatigue, fever (>37.5°C), malaise, anorexia, nausea.

Incidence <1% of injections: Hematoma, pruritus, rash, urticaria, pharyngitis, upper upper respiratory tract infections, abdominal pain, diarrhea, dyspepsia, vomiting, arthralgia, elevation of creatine phosphokinase, myalgia, hemiparesis, hypotonic episode, insomnia, photophobia, vertigo.

Additional safety data

Safety data were obtained from two additional sources in which large populations were vaccinated. In an outbreak setting in which 4,500 individuals were immunized with a single dose of either 720 ELU or 1440 ELU of Havrix, the vaccine was well-tolerated and no serious adverse events due to vaccination were reported. Overall, less than 10% of vaccinees reported solicited general adverse events following the vaccine. The most common solicited local adverse event was pain at the injection site, reported in 22.3% of subjects at 24 hours and decreasing to 2.4% by 72 hours.

In a field efficacy trial, 19,037 children received the 360 ELU dose of Havrix. The most commonly reported adverse events were injection-site pain (9.5%) and tenderness (8.1%), reported following first doses of Havrix. Other adverse events were infrequent and comparable to the control vaccine Engerix-B® (Hepatitis B Vaccine, Recombinant).

Postmarketing Reports: Rare voluntary reports of adverse events in people receiving Havrix since market introduction include the following: local edema, anaphylaxis/anaphylactoid reactions, somnolence, syncope, jaundice, hepatitis, erythema multiforme, hyperhidrosis, angioedema, dyspnea, lymphadenopathy, convulsions, encephalopathy, dizziness, neuropathy, myelitis, paresthesia, Guillain-Barré syndrome, multiple sclerosis, congenital abnormality.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has established the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS) to accept reports of suspected adverse events after the administration of any vaccine, including, but not limited to, the reporting of events required by the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986. The toll-free number for VAERS forms and information is 1-800-822-7967.

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City College TV to show programs on AIDS

Tribute to those who have died from disease

by Cynthia Laird

In recognition of World AIDS Day, City College of San Francisco's cable channel 52 will present special films and videos Thursday, December 5 and Friday, December 6 on its "Free Speech TV" program as a tribute to those who have died of AIDS, those who heal the afflicted, and those whose lives have been touched by the disease.

Programming for December 5, from 10 p.m. to midnight, will include:

Sabrosura – This snappy and stylish public service announcement promotes safer sex and AIDS counseling within the Latino community.

Olivia and Tim: Very Much Alive – This is a portrait of two individuals who have overcome the stigma of their afflictions to play life-affirming roles in their respective worlds. Olivia Breitha, 75, was diagnosed with leprosy in 1934 and was exiled to the Kalaupapa Settlement on Molokai, Hawaii. Cured of the disease since the early 1950s, she has remained in the settlement,

which is now her home. Tim Baker, a 32-year-old gay man living in Honolulu, was diagnosed with AIDS in 1989.

...By Any Means Necessary – A political video poem than gives voice to the rage many people feel about the AIDS epidemic. It chronicles the radical actions of some to bring attention to the AIDS crisis, and uses archival footage of Holocaust victims and survivors.

Tongues Untied – Marlon Riggs's acclaimed account of black gay life uses poetry, personal testimony, rap, and performance to describe the homophobia and racism that often confront African-American gay men. The tales include a man refused entry to a gay bar because of his color, a college student left bleeding on the sidewalk after a gay-bashing, and the loneliness and isolation felt by a drag queen. Riggs also presents the richness of the African-American gay male experience, from protest marches and smoky bars to the language of the "snap diva" and Vogue dancer.

On December 6, programming from 2 to 4 p.m. will include:

Identities – "Silence = ..." This is an interview with a person who has AIDS. It is a graphic and literal illustration of the problems inherent in discussing AIDS from a victim's point of view.

AIDS: Facts Over Fear – Student producers question their peers regarding the extent of their knowledge about AIDS, and interview experts in an attempt to demystify the topic. The results are a straightforward presentation of the facts about AIDS transmission without prudishness or prejudice.

Voices of Positive Women – This groundbreaking documentary examines the impact of HIV and AIDS on the lives of women. Women with HIV or AIDS have found little information specific to them, and even denial that women are at risk.

Positive Men – This begins as a docudrama that illustrates the impact of the AIDS epidemic on gay men in the early 1980s. Memories of New York and San Francisco are the backdrop for seven dramatic scenes which designate the intersection of community support, medical science, and gay politics that emerged in response to the AIDS crisis.

Cable channel 52, the educational access station operated by City College of San Francisco, is dedicated to providing innovative and thought-provoking educational programming that serves the needs of the San Francisco community. ▼

For a complete schedule or for more information, call Amy Weller at (415) 239-3887.

'Stand together to celebrate'

Benefits mark Ark of Refuge anniversary

by Cynthia Laird

By using her spirituality to bring HIV/AIDS services to the African-American community for the last ten years, the Reverend Yvette Flunder has helped integrate two communities frequently perceived to be at odds with each other—people of color and the gay community.

"You're not going to pit me, a black woman, against the gay community," said Flunder, executive director of the Ark of Refuge, Inc. and pastor at City of Refuge Community Church.

"What about people of color who are gay?" she asks of those who would divide the communities. "Do you stand with the black community or do you stand with the white, gay community?"

"The question is, when will we stand together and celebrate our diversity?"

Flunder is passionate about the beliefs that helped guide her toward the realization that something needed to be done to provide AIDS/HIV housing and other services in the African-American community about ten years ago. The result of her first efforts to provide housing for people living with AIDS in her congregation was the Ark of Refuge, Inc., a nonprofit agency that today operates housing and other HIV services in San Francisco and Oakland.

In an interview with the B.A.R., Flunder spoke about her ministry, services provided by the Ark of Refuge, her appointment by Mayor Willie Brown in July as the first African-American member of the Recreation and Park Commission, and her "secondary call" to reach out to African-American churches around HIV.

"It opens up a dialogue on sexuality, that's why it's been tough," Flunder said of what she called her biggest challenge.

Earlier this year, Flunder received one of the "Saints Alive" awards from Metropolitan Community Church-San Francisco. Flunder was honored to receive

the award and said she's worked with MCC's Reverend Jim Mitulski on various projects, including holding joint revivals.

"We have a very similar vision, fighting against all odds, until people understand," Flunder said. "We must be integrated. Oppressed groups cannot be against each other. It creates division."

She also told the B.A.R., "I feel called, in essence by God, to be a bridge builder. Too many folks have endured enormous amounts of oppression."

Gospel, Holliday fundraisers

Outreach has been one of Flunder's strengths, and she used it to start the Ark of Refuge, which was incorporated in 1991 as an HIV-focused minority agency. The program operates three residential programs, one in San Francisco and two in Oakland, and has an annual operating budget of about \$1.3 million. The Ark, as it's known, also provides HIV education services in the African-American religious community.

Restoration House, which opened in San Francisco in 1993, is a long-term housing program for African-American women with HIV, and also offers outpatient substance abuse treatment. In Oakland, the Hazard-Ashley House opened in 1992 and provides permanent housing with medical and social case management services for HIV-positive men. Walker House, also in Oakland, opened in 1994 as long-term supportive housing for low or no income people with HIV or disabling HIV disease.

Flunder said the Ark serves about 100 people over the course of a year. The turnover is a result of some people dying, but she added that others in the programs are sometimes able to go on to independent living arrangements.

"We're in it for the long haul. We're going to ride this disease out until it's a non-issue," she said.

That, however, takes money. And although the Ark receives funding from a variety of sources,



Rev. Yvette Flunder.

including federal Ryan White CARE and HOPWA money, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funds, and local dollars, Flunder said about 20 percent of the agency's budget comes from donations.

In celebration of the Ark's fifth anniversary and World AIDS Day, two fundraising events have been planned to benefit the Ark. The first, on Saturday, November 30, is

an appearance by Grammy Award and Tony Award artist Jennifer Holliday at Club Universe. She's appearing in conjunction with the release of her "Greatest Hits" CD.

The second event will be on Sunday, December 1, World AIDS Day. A Gospel benefit concert will be held at City of Refuge Community Church. Flunder said the concert will feature many award-winning Gospel artists.

Flunder said the Ark's board of directors has begun to get more involved in raising money, in part to build up the infrastructure of the agency and to build capacity.

'Battle against oppression'

City of Refuge Community Church, where Flunder is pastor, has about 400 active members, she said. About four years ago, the church joined the United Church of Christ (UCC), the tenth largest Protestant denomination in the country with 1.5 members.

"We joined UCC because it is a justice church," Flunder said.

She described the church as a "powerful spiritual community," including many members who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or questioning, and people who are in recovery.

"It [the church] represents a number of groups who know oppression and who come together to do battle against oppression," she explained.

Besides running the Ark and

serving as pastor at City of Refuge Community Church, Flunder was named to the city's Recreation and Park Commission by Brown in July. She remains committed to justice in that arena as well.

"Most parks in the good areas look good. Most parks in poor neighborhoods look poor," Flunder said. "My intent is to lean hard on having parity in funding, and put money where the need is, and the mayor's pledged to that as well."

She emphasized the importance of parks, saying, "If we're going to have healthy young people, we're going to have to give them alternatives that are viable."

Flunder also said the AIDS epidemic has "had us under a cloud of impending doom for so long" that it's "time for us to get our joy back and fix our parks and create expression." ▼

Tickets for the November 30 appearance by Jennifer Holliday at Club Universe are \$13 at the door or in advance through BASS. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. The December 1 Gospel benefit starts at 7 p.m. at City of Refuge Community Church, 432 Mason Street at Post. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at A Different Light or Powell's Place. For more information, check the World Wide Web site at <http://www.srefuge.org>

Panels of Names Quilt on display in Walnut Creek

by Cynthia Laird

Several panels from the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display in Walnut Creek from December 1-16. The display will feature quilt panels that were created specifically for people who lived and died in Contra Costa County of AIDS-related causes.

The display is being sponsored by the Dean Lescher Regional Arts Center in conjunction with the Genard AIDS Foundation and arts organizations in the Contra Costa community. Ronald Sommer, executive director of the Genard AIDS Foundation, also said the exhibit will mark the beginning of the Contra Costa Quilt Project, a local effort for residents.

The Names Project Quilt memorializes the death of persons with AIDS. Those who have loved them create the quilts and permit their display throughout the United States. The panels are made of

various materials, but all conform to the same size specifications, allowing them to be displayed in a variety of configurations.

In October, the quilt was shown in its entirety for the last time when it was displayed on the National Mall in Washington DC.

The Genard AIDS Foundation provides palliative care for persons in the later stages of AIDS and their loved ones. The Contra Costa Quilt Project will assist the loved ones of those who have died of AIDS-related causes to create their quilts, provide storage space if needed, and arrange for displays throughout Contra Costa County. ▼

The Names Quilt will be on display at the Dean Lescher Regional Center for the Arts, located at 1601 Civic Drive in Walnut Creek. For more information on the Contra Costa Quilt Project, call the Genard AIDS Foundation at (510) 943-2437.

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Finally...a reason to go shopping

by Jennifer Maerz

A number of California businesses are raising money for AIDS research in a new fashion.

Nordstrom, Macy's, and local businesses such as Soho in the Castro are donating portions of their sales next week to a number of nonprofit AIDS research and support groups.

The "benefit shopping days" vary depending on the stores and organizations involved.

In San Francisco, the sixth annual "Shop for Life" campaign correlates with World AIDS Day on December 1. Businesses involved donate \$100 - plus at least two percent of their sales - this Saturday and Sunday, November 30 and December 1, to the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Last year, "Shop for Life" day raised nearly \$60,000 for the HIV-related services of the organization. This year, the event includes participating stores across the city and in the East Bay.

The concept behind the two benefit days is to have a community-based campaign where everyone from smaller "mom and pop" stores to large chain stores can get involved, said San Francisco AIDS Foundation's events associate Terry Powers. She added that the campaign's goals are twofold - to create awareness and support for her organization's services and to help the sales of businesses involved.

Some stores are committing up to 20 percent of their sales on these busiest of shopping days; a contribution that will make an impact on the foundation's budget.

One of the local businesses planning to do so is Soho, a card and stationary store in the Castro that has been involved with "Shop for Life" for a number of years. "It's a great cause, and it helps neighborhood businesses as well," Soho office manager Dena Luebke said.

"Shop for Life" is great because it's something that we do naturally - shopping - and also it's a simple but important way to get involved," agreed Clay Jones, associate director of development for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

Nordstrom will also be involved in the local benefit scene, although not through the "Shop for Life" day. It's having a private "Shop From the Heart" day, showcasing Olympic diver Greg Louganis and pieces of the AIDS Quilt. Although media events spokesperson Jennifer Drubner would not say how much they would donate to the non-profit Academy of Friends, she expects this new effort to be successful for everyone involved.

The Serramonte Center in Redwood City launched a program in September called "Community Commitment" to help the AIDS Community Research Council (ACRC) and other related groups. From now through January 1, people put their receipts from the mall stores in a drop box, which earns the organi-

zations involved points toward earning \$2000 in donations. "It couldn't be easier," said Barbara Singer, ACRC's campaign representative. "It's like giving two gifts at the same time - the gifts of love and life."

In Sacramento, Macy's will close December 4 for a private party where customers can enjoy live music, fashion shows, cooking demonstrations, and children's events. The price of admission will go to Center for AIDS Research and Education (CARES), and Macy's will give the organization an additional \$3 for each ticket purchased.

Antidote to cutbacks

The combined efforts of these benefit shopping days couldn't come at a more important time, according to the beneficiaries. AIDS research and support groups will be hit hard by cutbacks to their budget. President Clinton's "Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996" will sharply limit eligibility and benefits for many federal programs, including AIDS-related organizations.

The January 1 date of implementing the act is a chopping block for many groups who will increasingly have to rely on dona-

tions of private citizens and businesses to ease the gap created in federal funding. "We're finding more and more that we have to do fundraisers to supplement our income," said Ann Parks-Council, associate director of ACRC.

Jones, from the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, agreed that AIDS organizations will continue to reach out to the community in the future.

"What we've been seeing is more establishing and maintaining community partnerships of this type," he said. "Where the government cutbacks left off, neighborhoods are stepping in." ▼

More events planned for World AIDS Day

by Cynthia Laird

The many events planned to commemorate World AIDS Day on Sunday, December 1 in San Francisco range from the planting of a giant tree in Golden Gate Park, to an inclusive program of remembrance and music, to a multi-location performance piece.

At the newly named National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park, a giant 15-foot by 15-

foot camellia tree will be planted in honor of those touched by AIDS. Last month, the 15-acre wooded dell in the park achieved national landmark status with the signing of a bill by President Clinton.

With the new designation, there is now a place in the national public landscape where anyone touched by AIDS - directly or indirectly - can gather to heal, hope, and remember.

Volunteers will provide guided tours between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., when a service will be held that's expected to be both somber and joyful, featuring music, reminiscences, prayer, and the planting of the camellia tree.

To get to the AIDS Memorial Grove, enter the park on Fell Street, stay to the right and proceed to the first stop sign. Turn left. The entrance is at the intersection at the crux of the Y, east of the tennis courts.

From 1 to 5 p.m. at the Koret Auditorium in the new Main Library, several groups will host a commemorative program, "One People, One Community, One Hope." The San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the Names Project, and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP) are sponsoring this inclusive program.

"World AIDS Day is important because it signifies an international call to unity in the fight against AIDS," said Robin Avant, community outreach manager for the AIDS Foundation. "This day is of particular importance to San Francisco because this city has always been in the forefront of AIDS education, prevention, and awareness, and this is the most encouraging time since the realization of the pandemic 15 years ago."

During the free event, the Names Project will display several panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt and provide a blank signature panel for people to add names of loved ones lost to the epidemic. Live entertainment, including performances by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, will take place throughout the day.

People who have lost loved ones to AIDS are expected to offer moving testimonies. The AIDS Foundation, Names Project, Polaris, the NTFAP (National Task Force on AIDS Prevention), and the Gay Men's Chorus will also be staffing information tables at the library, located at McAllister and

Hyde streets.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation encourages people attending the event to bring a new wrapped or unwrapped children's toy for donation to the foundation's Women and Family Holiday party (scheduled for next Friday, December 13).

Passage together

In the evening, the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts will present *Passage*, a site-specific performance experience in honor of World AIDS Day/Day Without Art. Two shows will be performed at 6 and 8 p.m.

"Thinking of the many ways we each make personal passages through our experiences as we live our lives and experience the impact of AIDS and mourn the death of loved ones, no one of us lives alone or dies alone. Most often, we go through this passage together," said Lauren Hewitt, director of the Jon Sims Center, who conceived the piece.

The show is described as a multimedia collaboration between Rick Darnell, director of the High Risk Group; Samuel Topiary, actor and dancer; Kathryn Lyle, music composer; Jim Santi Owen, percussionist and dancer; Jeffrey Winter, video installation artist; and Jeff Hayward, classical flautist.

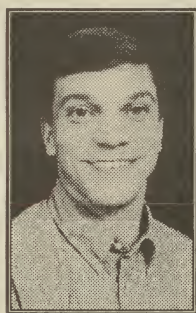
Passage will lead the audience through an experimental journey using different environments and rooms housed by the Jon Sims Center. It has been conceived as a metaphor for the acceptance and grieving process of life in the face of the AIDS pandemic.

The piece originates outdoors under the streetlights of Minna Alley, near the rear entrance of the Jon Sims Center, with the High Risk Group performing "time is just a place." Audience members are then led through the entire piece by Topiary incarnating an angelic spirit.

The Jon Sims Center is a performance/process studio complex and nonprofit umbrella for the Bay Area's queer community.

Tickets for the performance are available on a sliding scale of \$5 to \$10. No one will be turned away, and reservations are strongly encouraged. The Jon Sims Center is located at 1519 Mission Street, between 11 Street and South Van Ness Avenue. People can call (415) 554-0402 for more information. ▼

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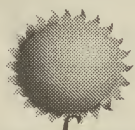


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For AEF, every penny does count

Big fundraising campaign now underway

by Cynthia Laird

You've no doubt heard the age-old phrase, "Every penny counts." And, in recent years, you've probably heard it in connection with about 1,000 penny jars that are displayed at numerous businesses throughout San Francisco.

During November, the phrase and the penny jars become even more important. It's the big annual fundraising drive for the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF), a nonprofit organization that's been providing emergency financial assistance to people with AIDS or disabling HIV since 1982.

On Monday, December 2, in recognition of World AIDS Day, which falls on Sunday, December 1, AEF is having a "weigh-in" event at Justin Herman Plaza in San Francisco, according to Clark Sealy, project coordinator for the fundraising campaign. During the day, AEF volunteers will be in the plaza, and people can take their pennies — or nickels, dimes, quarters, and folding currency — to contribute to the agency.

"It's our big fundraising drive, our Every Penny Counts day," Sealy told the B.A.R. "People are encouraged to come down. We'll be having a radio station doing live remotes, and people can bring their coins right there. We'll bag it and send them an accounting of how much they've contributed."

Normally, AEF has about 700 penny jars at various businesses throughout the year. The change is turned into AEF every few months.

This month, however, Sealy said, another 300 jars have been added, as many schools and corporations participate in the effort.

The extent of funding AEF provides to people who have AIDS or disabling HIV is no small change. So far this year, through the end of October, AEF has assisted 5,269 individuals and distributed \$1.3 million, Sealy said. Primarily, the people use the money to pay rent or utility bills so that they can remain in their homes.

AEF's Every Penny Counts campaign began in 1987 at the Gate Restaurant on Pine Street. Patron David Slocombe and the late bartender Fred Skau decided to put a jar out at the Gate to collect pennies for the agency, Sealy said.

Since then, jars have sprung up in hundreds of establishments and AEF has become known for the unique fundraising effort. Last year's monthlong campaign raised \$42,000, said Sealy.

"It adds up really fast," he added.

This year also brings AEF closer to approaching the \$1 million mark in donated pennies. So far, Sealy said the agency has taken in 91.4 million pennies.

"We need 100 million pennies to make \$1 million," he explained. ▼

AEF volunteers will be at Justin Herman Plaza Monday, December 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the weigh-in event. For information about getting a penny jar for your office or business, call Sealy at (415) 558-6985



Every Penny Counts coordinator Clark Sealy (center) counts the latest haul Nov. 23 along with volunteers Jeannie Engelhart and David Slocombe.

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CMV symposium for docs in Palo Alto

by Cynthia Laird

Approximately 100 physicians will gather on Monday, December 2 in Palo Alto to discuss recent scientific advances on one of the most devastating infections associated with HIV/AIDS, cytomegalovirus, also known as CMV.

The symposium, entitled "Evaluation and Management of AIDS-Related CMV," is being coordinated by the AIDS Commu-

nity Research Consortium (ACRC) to occur the day after World AIDS Day, in an effort to maintain the momentum of many other local and international AIDS consciousness-raising efforts.

CMV is a member of the herpes virus family. CMV infection occurs in many people without causing symptoms; however, in people with advanced HIV disease, CMV may reactivate to cause serious illnesses such as blindness, pneumonia, colitis, nerve inflam-

mation, and/or death.

Physicians who provide medical care to HIV/AIDS patients are strongly encouraged to attend the free symposium.

"There have been tremendous advances in our understanding of CMV treatment this past year. This forum will enable local and national experts to share their experiences with other physicians so they can bring that knowledge back to the front lines, where it can be put to immediate use," said Michael Edell, ACRC executive director.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Douglas Jabs, professor of ophthalmology and medicine at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Jabs is one of the most widely recognized experts in the area of CMV disease. He is particularly known as the principal investigator for the medically-acclaimed Studies of the Ocular Complications of AIDS (SOCA).

Joining Jabs will be Dr. W. Lawrence Drew, professor of laboratory medicine and medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF); Dr. Johannes Koch, assistant professor of medicine, department of gastroenterology, UCSF; Dr. Lucy Rasmussen, senior clinical research associate, division of infectious disease and geographic medicine at Stanford University; and Dr. Robert Neger, assistant clinical professor, department of ophthalmology at UCSF.

"The faculty for this symposium reads like the Who's Who in



Michael Edell

CMV research. We feel fortunate to have the prestigious group of scientists associated with this forum," said Dr. Dennis Israelski, symposium moderator.

Israelski is an associate clinical professor at Stanford University's School of Medicine and director of the San Mateo County AIDS Program. As one of ACRC's founders, he continues to serve as one of the organization's senior

research associates to assure access to the most promising treatments on the front lines of AIDS care.

The pharmaceutical industry is supporting the symposium through educational grants, Edell said.

Since 1988, ACRC has functioned as a community-based AIDS research organization that works with physicians and clinics who care for people living with HIV/AIDS. Now the largest non-profit AIDS research center in California, ACRC provides people living with HIV an opportunity to receive the latest treatments by participating in research studies long before the medications are available to the public. For many people, new treatments mean buying time until more scientific advances are made to manage complications of HIV/AIDS, stated Edell.

In collaboration with other research groups across the nation, ACRC has helped achieve federal approval for 17 medications to treat people living with HIV/AIDS.

For physicians wanting to attend the symposium, pre-registration is required. ▼

The symposium will be held at the Garden Court Restaurant in Palo Alto from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. To pre-register or for more information, call Ann Parks-Council at (415) 364-6563, ext. 17.

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San Jose lecture on Elvis, Marilyn to include performances

by Cynthia Laird

Dr. Scot Guenter, an associate professor of American Studies at San Jose State University, will participate with the San Jose Museum of Art in recognizing World AIDS Day/Day Without Art on Sunday, December 1.

Guenter will present a lecture entitled "Beautifying Martyrs in American Popular Culture: Elvis + Marilyn," in which he will discuss works in the museum's exhibition "Elvis + Marilyn 2 x Immortal" as they relate to issues of race, class, regionalism, gender, and gay subculture in the 1950s.

At the close of his lecture, Guenter will be joined by Elvis Herselvis and Miss Vina Las Vegas, two cross-dressing Elvis and Marilyn impersonators, who will perform for the audience.

Guenter received his Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1986. He currently teaches

courses about popular culture and contemporary issues, including racism. Guenter is a volunteer for the ARIS Project in San Jose and is also a gay activist.

The museum will also mark Day Without Art with the draping of David Smith's sculpture "Hudson River Landscapes," completely obscuring the artwork from view. The sculpture is located at the entrance to the "American Art 1940-1965: Traditions Reconsidered" exhibition.

Additionally, the museum will offer complementary red ribbons to all patrons on Sunday. ▼

Dr. Guenter's lecture will be held at 1 p.m. and is free with museum admission, which is \$6 for adults and \$3 for seniors and students. The San Jose Museum of Art is located at 110 South Market Street in San Jose. For recorded information, call (408) 294-2787.

Mayor at Eagle

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comedy.

The group has performed at Up Your Alley, Folsom Street Fair, Bandstand at the Grand Hyatt, Men Behind Bars '94, Halloween in the Castro, and Funders Concerned AIDS awards dinner. Jungle Red was one of the first groups

to be featured during the successful Airspace workshops at the Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts. ▼

The benefit will be held at the San Francisco Eagle, 12th and Harrison streets from 3 to 6 p.m. The donation is \$8 per person. TTY users can call (415) 431-5384 for more info.

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HIV council approves '97-98 CARE funds

by Cynthia Laird

After a lengthy debate of whether to give all service categories an equal cut of 16.5 percent, or to stick with the dollar amounts reached by averaging members' worksheets, members of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council voted 21-5 to follow their planning process and went with the cross-group average figures at their Monday, November 25 meeting.

The vote basically concluded the prioritization process for an expected \$33.4 million in federal Ryan White CARE funds for 1997-98. Of that money, \$28.3 will be used for services in San Francisco. The money is distributed to HIV/AIDS service providers in 17 different categories ranging from primary medical care, to housing, to client advocacy, to name just a few of the groups.

The remainder of the funds is allocated to San Mateo and Marin counties and administrative costs. The two counties and San Fran-

cisco make up the Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA) that receives the CARE funds.

Faced with the difficult decision of making funding cuts, many council members were visibly torn by the prospect. For awhile, the discussion centered on giving every service category an equal 16.5 percent cut.

"We're going to have the most agonizing discussions ever around this table," commented member Tom Calvanese.

Discussion centered around the category of substance abuse services for people with HIV/AIDS, which suffered a 28 percent cut in funding.

"I couldn't live with this," member Diane Jones said, adding that perhaps an across-the-board cut would be more fair.

Others disagreed.

"What we came up with was our collective opinions, and each of us contributed to that. I'd encourage us to bite the bullet and go with our averages, our collective wisdom," said member Laura Thomas.

"I feel taking a 16.5 percent cut

across the board is a cop-out," commented member Pat Christen. "Real cuts have to be made, and agencies should be forced to look for other funding streams."

Thomas pointed out that one of the things the council considered was other revenue sources for the service categories. At the group's November 18 meeting, many members noted the commitments on the part of some supervisors and the Department of Public Health to establish substance abuse treatment on demand next year.

Although no specifics for such a program have been developed yet, Supervisor Susan Leal had made it one of her top priorities for the forthcoming city budget.

Some council members opposed an across-the-board cut because that would go against the planning work that they've been involved in since they formally began the prioritization process November 4. At their meetings, the council has divided into small groups to determine the priority of service categories and the dollar amounts for each of them. The small groups have been facilitated by staff from the Support Center.

After the November 18 meeting, averages of the small groups funding proposals were averaged to create the cross-group average figures approved by the council Monday.

What follows are the service categories and funding as approved by the council:

Primary medical care, \$6.7 million; housing and housing-re-

lated services, \$4.9 million; food and home-delivered meals, \$1.3 million; dental care, \$1 million; home health care, \$1.6 million; mental health, \$2.8 million; substance abuse, \$4.6 million; case management, \$1.4 million; residential hospice, \$600,000; client advocacy, \$740,000; transportation, \$80,000; day and respite care, \$470,000; buddy/companion services, \$790,000; rehabilitation care, \$630,000; system-wide de-

velopment, \$190,000; adoption/foster assistance, \$160,000; and translation, \$30,000. ▼

The planning council's next meeting will be Monday, December 9 at 4:30 p.m. in the sixth floor conference room of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, located at 10 United Nations Plaza, at Market and Seventh streets.

Grant helps with grief

by Cynthia Laird

An assistant professor at the Medical College of Wisconsin's Center for AIDS Intervention Research has received a four-year grant to help HIV-infected people cope not only with their health, but also with their grief and other emotional problems associated with the death of a loved one from AIDS.

Dr. Kathleen J. Sikkema, who teaches psychiatry and behavioral medicine at the college, was awarded just over \$1.3 million by the National Institute of Mental Health for the study.

"Emotional distress is common among people with HIV, but the anxiety, depression, and other problems can be compounded when a loved one dies from the same disease," Sikkema said. "This study will focus on adaptive ways to cope with these issues."

The current study is based in large part on Sikkema's pilot research in metropolitan Milwaukee. Through surveys and group sessions, she confirmed a "significant amount" of AIDS-related bereavement among HIV patients. For the new study, researchers will recruit 200 HIV-infected men and women. Participants will be randomly assigned to either the intervention group or a comparison group in which participants will be offered individual therapy.

During 12 consecutive weekly therapy sessions, intervention group participants will be counseled by mental health professionals to better cope with their AIDS-related grief. All participants will be assessed to evaluate the effectiveness of the intervention. ▼

UCSF study

◀ page 14

was done and develop appropriate programs. For that program, Kegeles will be working with Dr. Robert Hays.

For the replication program, Kegeles said CAPS will be working with a number of organizations in the Bay Area.

Different colleges, different focuses

In the five-college study, each school will study a different aspect of young gay men at risk for HIV. For example, in Wisconsin, Dr. Jeffrey A. Kelly, CAIR director, said that faculty from the department of psychiatry and behavioral medicine will work with the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin in Milwaukee and the Midwest AIDS Prevention Project in Detroit to develop HIV prevention programs for both cities.

"Although the incidence of HIV continues to level off among older age groups of gay men, the rate among young gay males, particularly minorities, continues to rapidly increase - as much as three to four percent a year," said Kelly, a professor of psychiatry and behavioral medicine.

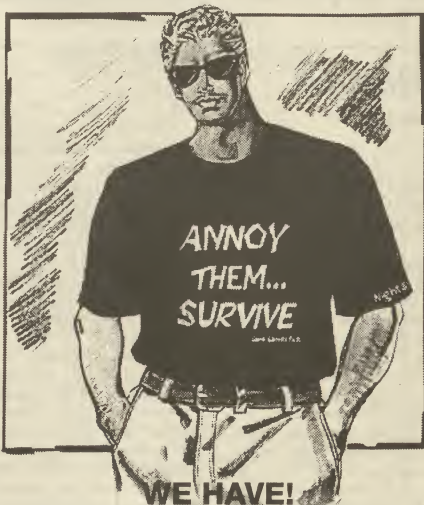
In the first part of the two-phase project, Medical College researchers will examine how to make HIV prevention efforts more effective in Milwaukee and Detroit.

They will then address the need for behavioral changes, focusing on factors such as the links between alcohol and unsafe sex, and low self-esteem and risk vulnerability. Researchers will also address "how to maintain pride while behaving responsibly," Kelly said.

In the second part of the project, prevention programs will be implemented, he added.

Kegeles said the five projects will work together. ▼

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FDA chief Kessler to leave

Replacing him won't be easy

by Bob Roehr

David Kessler will step down as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as soon as a replacement can be found. The Monday, November 25 announcement seems to have caught the Clinton administration by surprise, and even the rumor mill seemed to grasp at straws for possible successors. There is speculation that the White House will seek a Republican physician who shares Kessler's anti-smoking stance as a way of gaining confirmation.

Kessler was appointed in 1990 by President Bush to revitalize a highly bureaucratic agency further demoralized by a recent scandal over inadequate regulation of generic drugs. He made such a good start at the task that President Clinton reappointed Kessler in 1992, the only senior Republican appointee he retained.

"Does anybody remember the FDA in the late 1980s?" recalls Gary Rose in horror. The treatment lobbyist with the AIDS Action Council credits Kessler with "turning the FDA into probably the most progressive agency in the public health service. He has balanced the needs of all of the constituencies while keeping the core focus on protecting the public health. That is a remarkable feat."

"There is not a single federal agency that has been able to change the complete ethos of an agency so quickly," said Rose. "He had been one of the members of this administration who has forced the administration to walk the way they talk."

Spencer Cox, spokesman for the Treatment Action Group in New York, called Kessler's resignation "a great loss for people living with HIV/AIDS." He noted that at times TAG had disagreed with Kessler, but "on the whole, he has been a very good FDA Commissioner."

"He has really gone out of his way to include members of the

AIDS and HIV community in planning how to deal with AIDS drugs," said Cox. In April 1992 the FDA began the accelerated approval process for drugs dealing with life-threatening illnesses. That "has drastically shortened the time required for review of new AIDS therapies." The protease inhibitors were approved in record time.

No radicals, please

Kessler takes great pride in reducing the median time necessary for all drugs to be reviewed for approval. He noted that in 1990 it took an average of 25 months to approve 64 new drugs, but by 1995 the average time was down to 16.5 months — despite the fact that the work load increased to 82 new drugs.

"Kessler didn't just talk about speeding up the approval process of new drugs," says Project Inform's director Martin Delaney. "He reorganized the agency to make it happen. Without him, there would be little of the hope felt today over recent advances in AIDS treatments, because those new drugs would not yet be available."

Delaney called replacing Kessler "one of the most critical personnel choices to be made by the new administration."

"This is not a give-away job," said Cox. "This position regulates 25 percent of American consumer spending. The president has got to put someone in there who knows what they are doing." He warns that "radical deregulators among the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries" want to "reform" the FDA in Congress and cut its regulatory authority. "A radical deregulator [as FDA Commissioner] would be unacceptable."

Ernest Hopkins, with the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA), praised Kessler and said the group's goal was "to insure that whoever comes along doesn't undo any of that [earlier work], and continues the process" begun by the Commissioner. ▼

Phyllis & Del

◀ page 16

ments is their co-founding of the Daughters of Bilitis (DOB)."

Formed in 1955, DOB was at first a secret club that later became the first national lesbian organization.

In their own words, Lyon and Martin said that "the Daughters began in a climate of fear, rejection, and oppression, the aftermath of Congressional hearings and witch hunts by Senator Joseph McCarthy, who was relentless in 'exposing' communists and homosexuals in government. The law, religion, and psychiatry played prominent roles in the cruel treatment of lesbians and gay men by society and family. Lesbians were isolated and separated and scared."

Together, Lyon and Martin wrote *Lesbian/Woman* in 1972. It was later updated in 1983 and again in 1991. The book has been used as a text in women's studies and gay studies across the coun-

try. *Publisher's Weekly* listed it as one of the top 20 women's books of the 20-year period, 1970-1990.

"Through their courageous actions, Lyon and Martin increased the possibilities for lesbian organizations and acceptance today," Bullough said. "They might be called the grandmothers of today's lesbian movement. They have been there and done almost everything and are still alive and still active. They need to be recognized by the society as part of our foremothers."

Lyon was involved in the development of two educational films. She served as a producer, consultant, and participant in *Gay Women Speak* (1979), and *Last Call at Maud's* (1994). She also received both the Lesbian World Unity Award and the Jeannine Rae Award for contributions to women's culture in 1994.

Martin received the Gold Star Award in 1981 from the Family Violence Project. In 1989, Martin served as Grand Marshal of San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. ▼

FDA panel deadlocks on Delavirdine

by Bob Roehr

An advisory panel split four-to-four on whether to grant accelerated approval to the AIDS drug delavirdine last Friday, November 22. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) panel of scientific experts met outside Washington, DC and found the drug safe — but had questions as to its effectiveness and how to use it.

The FDA itself is likely to grant approval in December.

Delavirdine, developed by Pharmacia & Upjohn under the trade name Rescriptor, is a non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI). It disrupts the HIV virus at the same point in its replication cycle as do the nucleoside analogs (AZT, 3TC, d4T, ddI, ddC), but it binds to a different site of virus RNA to stop replication. The first of this class of drugs, nevirapine (retail name Viramune), was approved unanimously this summer.

Clinical trials have shown both drugs to be easily absorbed and tolerated by the body. The most significant side effect is skin rash, although it is seldom severe enough to discontinue use. Viral resistance quickly develops when used as a monotherapy, as is often the case with AIDS drugs. Thus the panel strongly advised against using the class of drugs as a monotherapy.

Ron Baker, with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, interpreted the clinical trial in combina-

tion with ddI as showing "very weak anti-viral activity" in double combinations. FDA official David Feigal, Jr. concluded that combination "does not appear to be the optimal use of this drug."

One clinical trial showed an uptick in CD4 counts at about six months, and a sustained elevation of CD4 counts at the end of one year. But many panel members were troubled by the 24 percent of patients lost to follow-up. They suspected that those encouraging results could be explained less by any success of the therapy than by the phenomenon that patients who did the worst left the study.

Positive aspects to delavirdine include a mutation/resistance profile that appears to be different from other medications. It also seems to increase the bioavailability of some protease inhibitors from two- to five-fold when used in combination. This could increase the effectiveness of those drugs or, more likely, result in lower dosage levels of protease and hence lower the cost of therapy. No clinical data is available on its use in combination with protease.

More hunch, less data

In public comments, Spencer Cox of the Treatment Action Group, based in New York, had strong words of caution on delavirdine. He represented a first-ever consensus statement issued by many of the major groups concerned with HIV. Joining in the statement were the AIDS Action Council, AIDS Treatment

Data Network, American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR), Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC) in New York, and the National Minority AIDS Council (NMAC).

"We have been disappointed to find that the data being presented today offer little evidence to support the efficacy of Rescriptor brand delavirdine when used in combination with nucleoside analogs, or the safety and efficacy of Rescriptor in combination with protease inhibitors," said the statement, which called the data "spot-

for the patients who don't tolerate or don't respond to combinations of protease inhibitors. The problem is, I don't have any data on how to use this drug in those individuals. ... If this gets approved it will be on much more of a hunch and much less data than most of the accelerated approvals."

Mary Dianne Murphy, M.D. at the University of Florida Health Sciences Center/Jacksonville, was representative of those who voted for approval. She shared an am-

trend down from a peak of 905 in 1992, so the pool of potential patients for pediatric clinical trials is small.

Rob Sabados with ACT UP/Golden Gate agreed, and strongly supported the widest possible use of delavirdine. "Please don't penalize the poor by limiting the labeling," he urged.

Incentivizing

Viral load data from one of the key clinical trials will be available only in January. That may ease some concerns of panel members on whether or not delavirdine maintains a durable repression of the virus.

But it is unclear if the FDA will wait until that information becomes available. When asked after the meeting, David Feigal, the FDA's lead official in this area, said that delavirdine was submitted under the user fee system which "incentivizes" rendering a decision within six months of the initial application. That time expires in early December. The deadline "is something we work pretty hard to meet," said Feigal.

Cox "understand[s] the concerns that the FDA has, and I realize how difficult it is. I'm glad they [the panel] recognized, I think for the first time, the real concerns about putting a drug out there without knowing what it does. ... I think the question is, if companies can get by on this [poor data submission], what is their incentive to come in with any better?"

"I think the assumption is yes, they are going to get by with it." ▼

Delavirdine disrupts the HIV virus at the same point in its replication cycle as do the nucleoside analogs, but binds to a different site of virus RNA.

ty and confusing, sometimes internally contradictory, and difficult to interpret."

Members of the advisory panel agreed with that assessment. "The magnitude of the effect is so small I'm not convinced it will translate into meaningful therapeutic benefit," said Christopher Mathews, M.D., professor at the University of California at San Diego Medical Center. "As a clinician I wouldn't know how to use this drug."

Fred Valentine, M.D., professor at the New York University Medical Center, was torn. "I do feel that there is a need for this drug

bivalence on the data but "as a clinician I would want this option."

In other public testimony, several mothers movingly pleaded the case for including pediatric trials in the approval process for HIV drugs. Currently only three HIV drugs carry a labeling for pediatric use. But pediatric cases have never been more than five percent of the total AIDS caseload, and that percentage is shrinking. As the Centers for Disease Control reported the previous day, 663 newborn infants acquired HIV from their mothers in 1995. That number continues the

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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Karl Milton Clothier

May 31, 1967 - Nov. 6, 1996

Karl Milton Clothier, a Bay Area native, was found dead Wednesday morning, November 6, while visiting friends here in San Francisco. He was 29.

Adopted at the age of 11 months by Galen and Margaret Clothier of Rohnert Park, Calif., he was well-known as a rare and powerful intellect, a prolific author of prose and poetry, and a deeply committed social activist. Though he tended to be reserved and cautious in public social settings, his circle of friends spanned a wide range, and included Buddhists, academics, Radical Faeries and business executives, who knew him to be a playful, caring, generous, affectionate and very loving person.

Besides his parents, he is survived by his sister, Cathleen; brother, Ronald; grandmother, Viola; a dear friend, Larry, with whom he had lived on and off in San Francisco for the past six years; and many others whose lives he touched.

A memorial service is planned for Tuesday, December 3, at 7 p.m. at the SGI/USA Cultural Center at 2450 17th Street in San Francisco. Friends are invited to attend and may R.S.V.P. to

Larry Baca at (415) 431-4799 or Mark Kaplan at (415) 788-7740.

William Frank Lopez

Oct. 30, 1947 - Nov. 7, 1996



Bill was a San Francisco native. He was struck and injured by a Muni bus when he was 13 years old. The accident left him with permanent brain damage that impaired his speech and other skills.

However, he participated in a special program that enabled him to be trained and employed by the General Services Administration of the federal government. He was proud of his ability to work and support himself, but he finally had to retire on disability.

In October of this year, Bill was diagnosed with cancer. He was mercifully spared a long illness and pain. He died peacefully with Ernest Patron, his partner of 11 years, at his side. Special thanks are due to the good people of the Kaiser Hospice program for the in-home care they provided Bill, easing the burden of his final weeks on him and on Ernie.

Bill outlived all of his family. But friends will miss him. They are invited to join Ernie for a brief memorial at Pier 7 (a few yards south of the Waterfront Restaurant on The Embarcadero) at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1.

Michael Paul Petrakis

The family and friends of Michael Petrakis invite you to a celebration of Michael's spirit Saturday, November 30, at 2 p.m. at Holy Cross Church in Santa Cruz.

Mr. Petrakis, a native Santa Cruzan, had lived in Paris since 1989.

Prior to his graduation from the University of California at Davis, he spent a year at school in Grenoble, France. Soon he was hosting hot air balloon tours over the Burgundy countryside with the Bombard Society.

From his office at Vitel International-

al, where he managed the Paris operations of that worldwide business messaging company, he often orchestrated the fun and fancies of those who visited him.

Prior to coming home, he spent his last summer in Provence with friends from all walks of life.

He is survived by his father, Harry Petrakis, and his mother, Mimi Sinnott Petrakis Scoppettone, both of Santa Cruz; and his brother, Christopher Petrakis of Reunion Island. Donations may be made to the Santa Cruz AIDS Project, P.O. Box 557, Santa Cruz, CA 95061 (408) 427-3900 and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (415) 487-3000. Memorial arrangements are through Norman's Family Chapel. For further information, please call them at (408) 476-6211.

Rodney Trumble

1953 - 1996

Rodney died peacefully at his San Francisco home November 17 after three years of battling bravely and uncompromisingly against AIDS. With him were his mother, Agnes, and life partner, David Forbes.

Following childhood in Florida, Rodney pursued an ambitious academic life at universities in Europe, Canada and the United States. Fluent in his first love, French, as well as Spanish, German and Italian, Rodney earned Ph.D.s in philosophy and French literature.

Rodney possessed a huge heart. He loved and loved to be loved. He cared faithfully for his partner, Carlos Boseley, until Boseley's death in 1989. A loving son, brother and life partner, he lived as much for his family of close friends in Europe as for those in the United States. He gave at least as much as he received.

Rodney found tremendous faith and strength at All Saints' Episcopal Church in San Francisco. They supported him to the end. He was also surrounded with warmth and unstinting care by his doctors and nurses.

He asked to be remembered by gifts either to All Saints' or to Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco.

Thank you, Rodney, for giving us so much love. May you rest in peace.

Plans progressing for a retirement community of our own

by Chuck Maisel

A Bay Area group has begun an informal investigation into the feasibility of, and interest in, an "active adult retirement community" for lesbian and gay residents. The group is seeking ideas and input from those who are approaching or have reached retirement age who might consider such a venture.

"Active adult communities" exist by the score throughout the nation. Among them are the amazingly excellent Sun Cities built by the Del Webb Corporation, each with about 4,000 homes. The detached homes are beautiful and commodious. The home-owners' associations own installations for the various activities, including everything from gymnasiums and swimming pools to golf courses; from metal and wood shops to little theaters and facilities for every kind of club and hobby.

Most appealing of all, the homes are astonishingly affordable. A couple can actually settle happily there for \$30,000 a year, a sum close to Social Security income.

Nice as that all is, it doesn't take a mind-reader to discern quickly that Sun City ain't gay-friendly. Not that there would be discrimination at the time of sale,

but the neighbors clearly would not welcome people of our sexual orientation.

Who are you and what do you want?

A large number of people in the Bay Area gay and lesbian community have equity in their present homes and/or can look forward to some income during retirement—but believe they cannot afford to retire where they are now living. Most of them are healthy and active and want to

to locate nearby.

The community can contain both detached homes on relatively small lots and condominium apartments. The activity center must serve a large number of interests. The price for residences should run from \$80,000 to the low \$200,000s.

Some sort of insurance should be available to assure long-term institutional care for those who may eventually require it. And each property must be fully resalable, just as any other private

It doesn't take a mind-reader to discern quickly that Sun City ain't exactly gay-friendly.

stay that way.

The study group has determined some of the criteria that would make an active community desirable to gays and lesbians from the Bay Area, or even nationally. For example, the location must be within an hour of a large city with cultural activities, such as San Francisco, and there should be scheduled daily transportation to and from the city. Location should also be in a politically friendly area. The size of the development should be sufficient to attract service businesses

property.

Finally, the project probably should be put together by a not-for-profit organization.

The study group is interested in hearing everyone's thoughts on the idea. Callers can be anonymous, but the group would prefer to stay in touch as plans evolve. ▼

Contact the study group by mail at P.O. Box 13, San Anselmo, CA 94979, or leave a phone message at (415) 487-5439.

A true original:

Friends to remember Eugene Frederick Von Babo

by Mary Richards

This Tuesday, December 3, the Cafe Flore will close its doors to the public at 7:30 p.m. for a private celebration of the life of Eugene Frederick Von Babo, aka Gene Babo. The cozy corner cafe, with its European flair, was a favorite of Von Babo's, and it was there he formed some of the lasting friendships of his life.

Even in the gay community of San Francisco, with its plethora of creative personalities, Von Babo was an original, and his death October 28 from lung cancer has left a void that will be felt by his many friends in the arts, and throughout the city.

Von Babo had formidable health problems in his youth, which friends say helped him to develop patience and compassion for anyone considered handicapped. He was born with a cleft palate, and contracted a virus at age six that destroyed his eardrums. His palate was surgically repaired, and he eventually regained partial hearing, but the success he enjoyed at his chosen field of music was extraordinary considering the formidable obstacles he had to overcome.

Von Babo studied in the theatre department at the College of Marin, and then at the College of San Mateo. His success at overcoming his deafness to become a pianist, and tour with ballet companies and orchestras throughout the United States and Europe, was testimony to his love of music and determination to succeed.

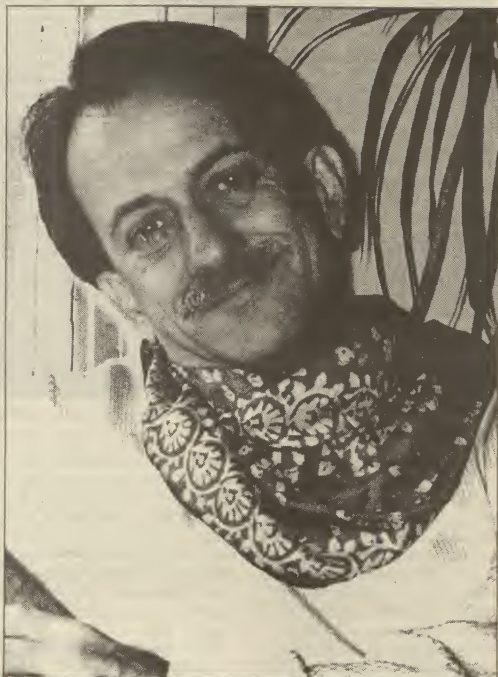
Jim Summers, his companion and friend who is now stage manager/floor director at KQED, described Von Babo as an individual who opened his head and home to everyone. "Gene had a keen sense of judging people," Summers said. "As a result, Gene collected in his life friendships with some of the finest people I have ever met. He was constantly bringing people home from his classes - ballet people, actors, actresses. If he met somebody and was working with them, and they were basically a nice person, he would bring them to the house. That's why he was so celebrated and so loved."

"At the time he became deaf," Jim Summers states, "he was already doing well on the piano, having started training at the age of three. Unable to hear, Gene continued to play and practice by resting his upper teeth on the body of the piano as he played, thereby feeling the vibrations of the piano itself. I think that gave him shadings to his music that I have never heard anyone else have, because he truly understood the vibrations, and what actually makes the sound."

"Gene would not be handicapped," Summers adds. "Even though he had these incredible problems, he never felt handicapped, and he was greatly incensed when people in any way treated him as handicapped. He rose above it all."

Divine to work with

Although Von Babo was a classical accompanist who played for the San Francisco Ballet company, he was an artist who also composed modern music. In 1974 he



Partner Jim Summers on Gene Babo (above): "Gene would not be handicapped. ...He rose above it all."

joined the Pitschel Players, an improvisational group, and moved to Los Angeles. In 1975 he was commissioned to write the musical score for the comedy, *Heartbreak of Psoriasis*, written by Sebastian of Cockettes fame, and starring Divine.

For years, Von Babo performed in the Nutcracker Suite playing the celesta, a small keyboard instrument that makes the tinkling bell sound denoting the presence of the Sugar Plum fairy in the play. Jim Summers recalls Gene returning from a performance of *The Nutcracker*, upset at the way the pianist played the music. "That's not the way fairies sound," Gene excitedly exclaimed. "Fairies sound like this!" and he sat down at the piano and played the notes over again.

Von Babo spent seven hours a day at the piano, and his musical interpretations were part of the legacy from his childhood.

While living in San Francisco, Gene Babo and Jim Summers stayed for seven years in a house on Castro Street with their friend, Gertrude Colvan, a time Summers describes as "magical and music-filled. Gert was studying guitar, we had a grand piano, and then I started playing keyboards and recording."

Friends of Eugene Frederick Von Babo will be congregating at Cafe Flore on Market and Noe streets to celebrate the life of a man who "was never afraid to talk to strangers, and always had a smile on his face."▼

The Celebration of Life for Eugene Von Babo be held at Cafe Flore, 2298 Market Street, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. For further information, call (415) 621-8579. In lieu of flowers, friends may donate to a scholarship fund of their choice for musical artists.

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EROS



Rip tied

by Jim Provenzano

Dolphins lived on land at one time. We know that because they have air-breathing lungs. Now that they've returned to the sea, it might be handy to reclaim their lost gills." So saith William S. Burroughs, a well-informed authority on longevity, if not physical fitness. Burroughs's remark, recorded on a spoken word cassette that recently popped out of my collection, reminded me of a friend who made a *Waterworld* joke when he spied the shiny black costume hanging in my shower that resembles low-budget Robin gear. Yes, it's a wetsuit. Yes, I use it. I figured the shower is the best place to store it, since putting it in the closet makes my suits smell funny.

I haven't used the wetsuit in a few months. Not that the weather impeded me. A good thick body suit, with footies, and appropriate surfing gear (boogie board for this creature), plus a jolt of hot tea before diving in, can keep you going for a few hours even in the dreary weather we've been having. Even when it's not sunny outside, it's still what can be called "warm" by San Francisco standards.

The major problem in swimming around in the ocean these days is more related to long-term health problems, specifically consuming microbits of the thousands of gallons of petroleum that vomited all over the Bay in October, causing the worst spill in this area in years. But even before that,



Hang ten: This surfer has no need of a wetsuit, thank you.

the years of waste and sewage that regularly ends up in the ocean is taking its toll. I lost track of the number of eye infections and throat problems related to swimming in the ocean. Recently, a number of California lifeguards were diagnosed with stomach cancer from years of gulping toxic surf.

It doesn't take a prophet to see that we are inexorably linked to the environment. The air we breathe, the smoke and bus exhaust, all of it takes its toll. One of the main reasons, as a cycling commuter, that I moved here was the fact that most of the buses don't fart. Why do you think commuters regularly end up smashed in train cars every day at 5 p.m.? Karmic revenge for all that meat.

So in lieu of a total environmental shake-down, in which case some of us may end up surfing to Mendocino come the big shake, I recommend exercise in any form. This is now going out to all those folks who gave up on the gym, or cycling, because you just can't figure out all those parts, or running, because you got shin splints, or anything, because by the time you get home all you can do is eat and watch *Roseanne's Coach Improvement*.

Well, in the words of Howard Beal, "Go to your television sets and turn them off. Turn them off right now." Sit down on your living room floor and stretch your tired bones. Find out what your body can do now. Feel overweight? Swim. You'll be lighter, and buoyancy reduces the pain factor induced by that vandal Gravity.

Feel underweight, stringy, need muscle tone? Find a buddy to go to the gym with, someone who's done it who can guide you around all the headphone-sporting *überhunks*. It sounds so easy, doesn't it?

As if.

The initial move is the hardest: getting yourself prepared to become more aware of your body and how you want to improve it. Transforming, or evolving, our bodies to fit our increasingly toxic environment requires ventilation at regular intervals, and that includes sweating. (Perspiration is one way I like to define sporting activities. This excludes such activities as billiards, commonly

known as pool, which I define more as a poking barroom annoyance created by anal-retentive queens who are merely looking for a way to bend over while everybody else in the bar is socializing properly, or trying to, without getting jabbed by some deficient queen's phallic symbol.)

But I digress.

Me, I'm looking forward to gulping some salt water, additive-free, sometime soon. If it takes going to Hawaii, then so be it. All I know is, my lucky seal pup usually makes an appearance every time I have the energy and bicycle capacity to ride to the Marin Headlands in search of scenery and animal activity. I just hope that seal survived the oily deck of the Cape Mohican, the derelict ship run by derelicts, no doubt.

Plug dept.

If the environment concerns you, which it should, unless you're one of those people who drives to work without carpooling (!) and leaves lights on (!) and litters (!), then you should join Gay/Lesbian Sierrans. They have a new director who I read is young enough to be my son, but that shouldn't deter you from helping out and getting interested in saving and enjoying what little natural bit of the planet we have left before Bill the Weasel Clinton sells it off to evil conglomerates like the one that vomited petroleum all over the Bay, and all the others that are slathering their chops to get a chunk of the Presidio, which "our friend" Nancy Pelosi has successfully sold off to just about anybody who's buying.

Sorry. Back to the Sierra Club. Daily hikes are a frequent activity with these friendly folks who know how to wear their Timberlands. Occasional overnight camping trips are included, so pick out a pup tent buddy and roam out where you can really go camping, and wear your pumps (not recommended for steeper trails) or your Timberlands, and socks. ▼

Gay/Lesbian Sierrans: (415) 281-5666 for San Francisco, North Bay and East Bay; (408) 236-2170 in South Bay and San Jose.

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COMMUNITY HEALTH LISTINGS

Send health resource listings to:

Roberto Friedman
Community Health
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

ACT UP/SF

Does not accept drug company donations, committed to direct action. Contact: 1388 Haight, #218, SF 94117. 522-2907.

Acupuncture

The Community Acupuncture Project offers free acupuncture Wed., 9-11:30am, American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 450 Connecticut. 282-9603.

AIDS Benefits Counselors

Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Bereavement Group

For partners and friends who have lost a loved one. Mondays, 6:30pm, 8-week session begins Dec. 2. Pre-registration required: 750-5718.

AIDS Community Research Consortium

Conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia CARE Unit

At St. Mary's Medical Center seeks volunteers to visit patients with HIV-related cognitive impairments. Call Stephen Ouellette, MSW, 750-4976.

AIDS Emergency Fund

Provides financial assistance to people with disabling HIV. Office volunteers needed for day shifts. Call 558-6999.

AIDS Health Project

Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA, more. Info, intake interviews: 416-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline

Volunteers needed to provide telephone emotional support, intensive training course provided. 984-1902.

AIDS Memorial Grove

Monthly workdays: weeding, clearing, replanting at Bowling Green Dr. and Middle Drive East, Golden Gate Park. Info: 750-8340.

AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group

Meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 294 or 215.

AIDS Support Group

2+ years since diagnosis. No charge, fees paid by Most Holy Redeemer AIDS Resource Group. Thursdays, 1pm. Call Gail Winston for intake: 552-7517.

AIDS Treatment Education Network

Provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS: holistic healing and survival strategies. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project

Offers family counseling, support groups and events for families with lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members. 566-5683.

Baker Places

Provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bay Positives

Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Baylands Family Circle

Non-profit group of families headed by gay, lesbian and bisexual partners, meets monthly for social. Call Tom, 858-2468.

Bereavement Groups

For family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy

Actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues. 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 431-2ACT x80Y.

Coming out support group for women

Meets Weds., 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. All women questioning their sexuality welcome. Info: Lynne, 626-7000.

Coming out support group for men

Meets Weds., 7:30-9pm at New Leaf, 1853 Market. All men of all ages welcome. Facilitated by Kirk Himman, PhD. Info: 626-7000.

Community United Against Violence

Begins training Volunteer Counselors on their 24-hour crisis line. Call NHV at 777-5500.

DNCB Treatment Support Group

Monthly meeting, DNCB distribution. Info: 954-8896.

Drug Detox Program

Outpatient, medical drug detox, HIV acute care, counseling and education, free. Haight Ashbury Free Clinics, 529 Clayton. Call Hector, 565-1909.

East Bay HIV/AIDS

12 Step Support Group
Ongoing. Open to all with HIV who have experience with any 12 step program. Mon, eves, 6:15pm. Info: Paul (510) 465-4311.

Ellipse-Peninsula AIDS Services

Support groups, emotional & practical buddy program, food program and case management for PWAs in San Mateo Co. 552-9702.

Eureka Acupuncture & Yoga Center

Offers yoga, massage, low cost acupuncture. 301 Eureka. 648-2215.

FABRIC

A support/social group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning Asian and Pacific Islander youth 25-under, has drop-in every Tues., 6-8pm. GCHP, 30 Pearl St. 575-3939, x318/x504.

Friends

A new group for gay and bisexual men, meets alternating Tuesdays, 7:30pm at Pride Center, 200 5th St., Santa Rosa. (707) 524-7373.

Glide-Goodlett HIV/AIDS Project

Free, confidential HIV antibody testing, Wed. 12-4pm. Case management, support groups, AIDS prevention and education. 330 Ellis, Suite 518. 567-2273.

Health Support Services

For PWAs and their caregivers, Wednesdays 6-9pm, Marin Treatment Center, 1466 Lincoln Ave., San Rafael. Registration: 457-3755.

HIV/AIDS Group

Emotional and spiritual support group sponsored by the Center for Attitudinal Healing and Kalros House. Mondays, 7pm, 2128 15th St. Call 331-6161, x106.

HIV/AIDS Services at New Leaf

Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199. 1853 Market St.

HIV and African-American Gay/Bisexual Men

Support groups every Wed., 6:30-8pm. Brothers Network, 973 Market, Suite 650. 356-8140.

HIV Care

Offers the latest clinical trials from the AmFAR community-based trial network and private industry, free to participants. Info: Sher Vieira, 353-6215.

HIV Negative Gay Men's Support Group

In the South Bay, meets second and fourth Wed. of each month, 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100. San Jose. Info: Pat Duffy, 408-293-2747.

HIV Nutrition Discussion/Support Group

Ongoing monthly meetings at city clinics, call for info: CARE Program Nutritionists, 554-9121.

HIV Positive Drop-In Group

Free, every Tues., 7pm. MCC-SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

HIV Positive Youth Group

18-25, meets every Wed., 7pm. ARIS, 1550 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose. (408) 293-2747.

HIV Testing

Free, anonymous testing, counseling and education. 1st Thursday and 3rd Friday of each month, 10pm-12:30am. 933 Harrison, upstairs.

Housing and Client Assistance Program for PWAs

Provides emergency housing and financial help to residents of San Mateo Co. Mental Health Assn. of San Mateo Co.: 368-9989.

Immune Enhancement Project

Treats persons with HIV-related illness using a program of traditional Chinese medicine and herbal supplements. Info: 252-8711.

Jewish Family and Children's Services AIDS Project

Counseling, support groups, case management, more for Jewish people with HIV and their loved ones. 561-1241.

Laguna Honda Hospital AIDS Unit

Provides compassionate care to PWAs who are SF residents in need of 24-hour nursing care. Call 664-1580.

Linea de Ambiente

Information, referral and emotional support for gay, lesbian and bi Latinos regarding Immigration, HIV, social services, a project of Gente Latina de Ambiente (GELAAM). 243-9534.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center

Quality, affordable, non-judgmental medical care to women by women, special outreach to lesbian and bisexual women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

LYRIC's After School

Drop-in for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, 18 and under. Daily, 3-6pm, M-F. 123 Collingwood. 703-6150.

Marin Co. STD/HIV Clinics

STD testing, treatment; HIV anonymous testing, treatment. Call 499-7804.

The Mark Pope Career Counseling Center

A non-profit career counseling agency serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities of the Bay Area. 760 Market St., Suite 962. 296-8024.

Martin De Porres House of Hospitality

Needs volunteers to work in soup kitchen, breakfast and lunch. 225 Potrero. 552-0240.

Men Overcoming Sexual Assault

Operates sexual assault hotline for men, Mon.-Fri., 7-10pm. (510) 845-7273.

MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group

Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

MWM

A rap group for gay/bi Asian Pacific Islander men and their partners. Meets Weds., 6:30pm. Asian AIDS Project, 785 Market, Suite 420. 227-0946.

Mothers Organizing Mothers

Working to change public attitudes and policies on AIDS. Meets 2nd Wed. of every month, 7pm. Call 922-4639 or 221-6651 for information.

New Leaf

Provides substance abuse, mental health, HIV and senior services for les, gay, bi, and trans community. Info/intake: 626-7000.

OUTLINE

Free HIV info and support, using Windows or Macintosh graphic interface. Info: 554-0555 or info@outline.org

Pacific Center

Gay and bisexual men's HIV/AIDS support group, Weds., 7pm, 1250 Pine St. #301, Walnut Creek. (510) 939-7711.

Paradigm

Models for Enhancing Life Near Death, serves the terminally ill, free 10-week support group in SF. Call for info: 522-9192.

Positive Resource

Provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Pride & Prejudice

A welcoming group to queer youth meets every Tues., 6pm, at Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, 1748 Market St., Suite 201. Call Nicole at 565-7681.

Project HOPE

Offers HIV prevention peer counseling to gay, bisexual and transgender men of color. Call 356-8114.

Project Open Hand

Provides free prepared meals, groceries and nutrition counseling for people with symptomatic and disabling HIV disease. Call 1-800-551-6325 for intake information.

Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida

Provides peer counseling, legal assistance, workshops, therapy and housing referrals, free. 864-7278.

Quan Yin Healing Arts Center

Acupuncture, Chinese herbal therapies, massage for those with HIV, hepatitis, PMS, menopause or high stress. Mon.-Sat. 1748 Market. 861-4964.

Radical Women

Business mtg, 2nd & 4th Thurs. of the month. 7pm. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St. 864-1278.

Rafiki Services Project

Enhancing quality of life for African American people living with AIDS in SF. 346-5860.

re plen ish

Offers individual and group retreats for professional caregivers in the HIV community. Info: Kay, 864-5140 or write PO Box 410592, SF 94141.

San Mateo County AIDS Program

Provides prevention, health care, services and advocacy. Volunteer Resource Coordinator: 573-2488. Information: 573-2588.

SCA

Sexual Compulsive Anonymous meets every Mon. at 8pm, 2128 15th St. 864-7230.

Senior Central

Provides info, referral and assistance to gay and lesbian seniors, free and confidential services. 360 4th St. 777-3233.

Shanti Project's Latino Program

Specifically serves Latino men, women, adolescents and children infected with and affected by HIV. Provides help with emotional peer counseling and practical support. For more information, call 864-CARE.

Stanford GALA

Gay, lesbian, bisexual alumni/ae club of Stanford Univ. Info: 723-9036.

Transgender Support Group

Multiracial rap group, every first Monday of month, 6:30pm. Call Adelia Holiday, Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, 864-7278.

UCSF AIDS Health Project

Offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Under One Roof

The Shop for AIDS Relief seeks volunteers to work on the sales floor and in the office. Call Mary Beth, 252-9430.

Veterans Affairs Medical Center SF

Seeks volunteers to join its AIDS/ARC Volunteer Program. Volunteers visit patients in hospital and help in simple care tasks. Volunteers for AIDS Home Care and Phone Buddy Program are also needed. Contact Ronald Hunt, AIDS Volunteer Program Coordinator, VA Medical Center, 4150 Clement St., 750-2144.

We Care Bay Area

Provides emergency financial support to individuals affected by AIDS and other serious illnesses. Requests must be made thru a Bay Area outreach or social service agency. Info: 282-1911.

Weight Watchers Mtg.

Men: 9am Sat., 7pm Wed; Women: 6:30pm, Tues. MCC, 150 Eureka St.

WilCare Hospice

& Home Care offers free 20-hr. training course for volunteers. 2001 Gateway, San Jose. Call 467-0777.

Women's Action Coalition

An open alliance of women committed to direct action on issues affecting the rights of all women. WAC meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:30pm (women only), 1360 Mission St., Suite 200. WAC Hotline: 255-6352.

Women's Cancer Resource Center

Support, resource & advocacy group for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & doctors. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in support groups, newsletter, educational programs, legal workshop & more. (510) 548-9272 or 548-WCRC. 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

REQUEST FOR BIDS FROM QUALIFIED PROVIDERS

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING A CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF 19F14 AND 19F4 FIRE SIMULATORS, COMPLETE WITH ASSOCIATED FACILITIES, THE PROVISIONING OF CERTAIN CONSUMABLE, AND THE PROVISIONING OF CERTAIN INDEFINITE QUANTITY SERVICE ITEMS AT THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT'S REGIONAL LIVE-FIRE SIMULATION FACILITY LOCATED AT TREASURE ISLAND, SAN FRANCISCO, CA.

DEVICE 19F14 (ADVANCED FIRE FIGHTING TRAINER) AND DEVICE 19F4 (BASIC AIRCRAFT CRASH FIGHTING TRAINER) SIMULATE FIRE EMERGENCIES IN A REALISTIC ENVIRONMENT, USING LIVE, COMPUTER CONTROLLED, PROPANE FUELED FIRES.

THE SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT ENVISIONS THIS FACILITY BECOMING A REGIONAL TRAINING FACILITY SERVING THE TRAINING NEEDS OF LOCAL, REGIONAL, AND NATIONAL EMERGENCY SERVICE PROVIDERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL FROM PRIVATE INDUSTRY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO MARINERS, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY PERSONNEL, AND AIRPORT RESCUE-FIRE FIGHTING PERSONNEL.

INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD CONTACT THE SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT VIA FAX BY DECEMBER 6, 1996.

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
FIRE SIMULATOR OPERATION & MAINTENANCE RFP
2310 FOLSOM STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110
TEL. (415) 391-3907
FAX. (415) 695-9358

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209107

The following person(s) are doing business as SUPERIOR MARINE CANVAS, 400 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94110: Claudine Bailey, 3245 Glendora Drive, San Mateo, CA 94403. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Claudine Bailey. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 5, 1996. Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208926

The following person(s) are doing business as JUST FABRICS, 92 Waterville Street, San Francisco, CA 94124: Doris Onye-maechi Person, 92 Waterville St., San Francisco, CA 94124. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 29, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Doris O. Person. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 29, 1996. Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS

STATEMENT FILE NO. 201096

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business known as DIG IT, at 301 Arkansas St., San Francisco, CA 94110. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on December 29, 1995. Name and Address of registrant: CRAIG WILKES DESIGN, 1717 Alabama St., San Francisco, CA 94110. This business was conducted by a corporation. Signed: CRAIG WILKES, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the San Francisco County on the date October 8, 1996. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong. Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209261

The following person(s) are doing business as SHAMROCK PAINTING, 113 Clayton St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Bernard A. Wallace, 113 Clayton St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov 12, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Bernard A. Wallace. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 12, 1996. Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209082

The following person(s) are doing business as CLOUD'S REST HEALING CENTER, LLC, 2717 Judah St., San Francisco, CA 94122: Cloud's Rest Healing Center, LLC (CA), 2717 Judah St., San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 22, 1996. This business is conducted by limited liability company. Signed A. Zanagoza, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 4, 1996. Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 1996.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

To Whom It May Concern:

The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are:

DREIER MARK D

The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 1525 Mission St., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103.

For the following type of License: 48 ON-

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Nov. 14, 21, 28, 1996.

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Be home for holidays for sale or great lease option, beautiful 3 bed ocean view full basement, garage lots of improvements. Large lot 992-5462, 709-5462 E48

CHARM! CHARM! CHARM! \$189K
2BR/1.5BA Cottage. 761-8258 AGT E49

PANORAMIC & SECLUDED
See the river and distant Mt. Diablo from the hot tub & pool in the private and secluded Redwood decks off the master suite, 3BR, 2BA, \$179,800. Agent Tony 800-327-4664 Calaveras County E51

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209433
The following person(s) are doing business as BAY IMPORTS, 2210 Stockton St., Suite 212, San Francisco, CA 94133: Rajesh Chandra, 2210 Stockton St., Suite 212, San Francisco, CA 94133. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 18, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Rajesh Chandra. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 18, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209144
The following person(s) are doing business as TONER, 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108, NBSG III, Inc. (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108, NBSG III, Inc. (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was

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552-0129, EXT. 143/1340 E18

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Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 6, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209145
The following person(s) are doing business as NEW BOSTON, 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108, NBSG III, Inc. (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was

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LEGAL NOTICES

filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 6, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209146

The following person(s) are doing business as PLACEMENT PROS, 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108, NBSG III, Inc. (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 6, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209305

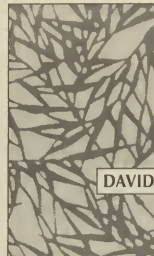
The following person(s) are doing business as CARLSON ENTERPRISES, 501 Octavia St., Suite 11, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 13, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed David L. Carlson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 13, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209358

The following person(s) are doing business as GALICIA RESTAURANT/POMAIRE EMPANADA HOUSE, 625 Clay, San Francisco, CA 94111. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 15, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed President Satoru Hirakawa. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 15, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209332

The following person(s) are doing business as MEGAQUEST, 1458 26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Marian Laffan. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 13, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

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Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209524

The following person(s) are doing business as CHAT HOUSE, 139 Eighth St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Chat House LLC (CA), 139 Eighth St., San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed Catherine Fields, Manager. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 21, 1996.
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO.
982713

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL for change of name. The application of CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that CHRISTOPH LUDWIG RIEDL has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to CHRIS DENNIS HANKS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 14th day of January, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 20th day of November, 1996.
Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12, 19, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209385

The following person(s) are doing business as FIESTA MERCENARIES, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107: Chris Ayala, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Chris Ayala. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 15, 1996.
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
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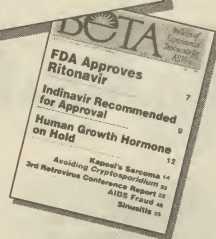
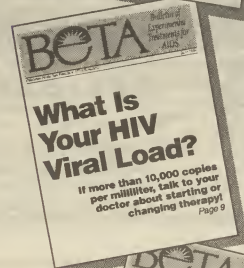
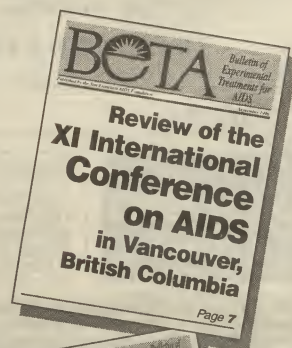
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Join us for the next **BETA LIVE!** program, a live report from the 4th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections in Washington, D.C., **Sunday, January 26, 1997 at 11:00 am Pacific Time.**

Supported by an educational grant from Hoffmann-La Roche.

SFO's 'The Tales of Hoffmann'
features solid performances from
Sam Ramey and Ruxandra Donose.
page 42

'Anti-Gay': a lament on
queer culture by homosexuals
who are tired of being gay.
page 44



'Giant' has it all:
James Dean, Rock Hudson,
and Elizabeth Taylor.
page 41



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 26 • No. 48 • 28 November 1996

Peter the Great

Reverend Peter Gomes
speaks the unspeakable

by Al Cunningham

The Reverend Professor Peter John Gomes has been Plummer Professor of Christian Morals at Harvard University and Minister in the Memorial Church there since 1974. Prior to 1991, he was principally known for having been named (in 1979) as "one of America's seven greatest preachers" by *Time* magazine, and for having officiated at inaugural ceremonies for Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush. Then, in November, 1991, conservative Harvard students produced a "special double issue" of *Peninsula* magazine devoted to denouncing homosexuality. Gomes was about to discover an altogether different kind of notoriety.

Several days after the magazine's release, a few hundred concerned students and members of the faculty and clergy gathered in front of the steps of Memorial Church for a demonstration against *Peninsula*'s anti-gay stance. When his turn to speak came, Gomes reassured the students that they were not victims of the Bible, religion, or the church, but playthings "of people who use religion as a way to devalue and deform those whom they can neither ignore nor convert." Further, he recited his credentials: minister, theology professor, and, finally, "a Christian who happens as well to be gay."

While the immediate response to his coming out was positive, there were ominous repercussions. A student group calling itself "Concerned Christians" hastily formed with the sole purpose of forcing Gomes to resign. Respected and supported by many, not to mention tenured, the Reverend weathered this small squall and moved on.

This month, William Morrow has published *The Good Book: Reading the Bible With Mind and Heart*, Gomes' handbook for those who want to understand how the Bible was written and compiled; how it has been used as a tool of oppression throughout history; and how it may properly become a liberating instrument capable of bringing readers closer to God.

For the past several weeks, the 54-year-old Gomes has been touring the country with the book, doing interviews, readings, and book signings. *The Good Book* is already in its fourth printing, and has been selected

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With the general racism that permeates the culture, the black homosexual who seeks to be a Christian and live responsibly in the world has a tremendous burden to bear."

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OUT THERE

by Sue Donymous, Conor Kennedy, and Pithy Galore

Diva alert! **Jennifer Holliday**, the once-zaftig Broadway belter and Tony- and Grammy Award-winning star of the 1981 mega-hit *Dreamgirls*, will perform twice next week in our fair city, at Club Universe on Saturday, November 30 (9:30 p.m.); and again on December 1, World AIDS Day, in a gospel benefit concert at City Refuge Community Church, Post and Mason Streets (7 p.m.). Both events are benefits for The Ark of Refuge, which provides housing, education, and counseling services for African-Americans, women, and PWAs in San Francisco and the East Bay.

Holliday blazed to stardom in *Dreamgirls* as **Effie Melody White**, the lead singer of a Supremes-like group called the Dreams, who is dumped in favor of a more attractive, thinner leader. Holliday's version of the show-stopping "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going" is the stuff of Broadway legend: rarely has a singer created such a sensation on the basis of one electrifying song. Holliday's star rose so quickly in the celebrity firmament that she was invited to perform the number for show-tune-loving **Ronnie and Nancy** at the White House. Suddenly, seemingly overnight, the little girl from the Pleasant Grove Church choir in Houston, Texas was a household name.

(Holliday's star turn almost didn't happen. When uberdirector **Michael Bennett** took over direction of the show, he so reduced Holliday's role that the singer finally quit. "I'm not going to have anyone do that to me," Bennett told one of the show's producers at the time. So they hired one **Alaina Reed** to take over. But after the presentation with Reed, Bennett—who was normally about as yielding as **Sergei Diaghalev**—and everyone else involved with the project agreed that they had to



Jennifer Holliday

have Holliday back.)

After her Broadway success, Holliday recorded five solo albums, covering every genre from soulful R & B to standard disco to heartfelt gospel. But, alas, the singer was unable to recreate her *Dreamgirls* success.

A newly svelte Holliday has recently logged time in the Broadway revival of *Grease*, as well as in the recording studio, where she's been cutting two new tracks for her greatest hits CD,

highlights of which the singer will perform on the 30th. For information on the Club Universe gig (\$13), call (510)-762-BASS. Tickets for the City Refuge Gospel Concert (\$15) can be purchased at A Different Light Bookstore on Castro Street or at Powell's Place on Hayes Street.

Stooling around

Filthy **Portia Capplethwaite** was seen careening around town last Saturday night, crooked as usual, and *sans sa souer stupide*. She was spotted first at the Visual AID "Big Deal" auction at SOMAR Gallery, where, according to our spies, she was downing martinis like there was no tomorrow,

insulting guests, screeching about "art" at the top of her lungs, and trailing swizzle sticks and fragments of olives all over the gallery. People were appalled. Fortunately no one paid her much mind, except glamorous philanthropist **Dodie Criggs**, who was so disgusted she was overheard telling **Mannie Mance** that "Portia Capplethwaite is a mess." Later in the evening, Portia was seen leaving the building with that sweaty cookbook scribe **Klaus**, who showed up in a black leather mummum.

It was a great crowd, though, and the list of swank and tony types included such notables as **Ed Gilbert** and **Bob Kelly**, both from the Gallery Paule Anglim; **Kevin Brook** from Haines Gallery; **Valerie Wade** from Crown Point Press; artist **J. John Priola**; **Catharine Clarke** from the Catharine Clarke Gallery; and that attractive Frenchman who owns Mac, the elegant boutique on Claude Lane.

Later in the evening, Miss C., now joined by the charming and studly **Glen Helfand**, was seen at Trannyshack, where the regulars convened to select **Miss Trannyshack 1996**. Four judges presided over this auspicious event: **Arturo Galster**, who wore a towering pink wig; **Deena Davanport**, who arrived in a cloud of

black crepe; the always charming **Greg Taylor**, done up in yet another horrific clown suit; and the inimitable **Elvis Herselvis**.

The big winner of the evening was one "**Steve Lady**," who so wowed the crowd with her special skills she earned the big prize—a leather sash emblazoned with the words "Miss Trannyshack 1996."

Portia was so drunk of course that she lost track of all the other winners and losers, though she did remember one of the runners-ups, **Timmy Spence**, whose number during the "talent" portion of the evening so enthralled Portia that she just had to share it with us. Apparently when Timmy

began to lip-synch to the famous ditty "Dirty Water," a girl in a white vinyl nurse's uniform popped onstage with a disposable enema in hand and proceeded to irrigate Ms. Spence's innards. After receiving the watery ver-mifuge, Missy Spence then discharged the contents into a potted plant on stage. Not a pretty picture, to be sure.

The evening's otherwise festive proceedings erupted into a bit of a fracas, however, when white-trash queen **Darlin'** took to the stage. It seems that her tongue-in-cheek homage to **Jodie Foster's** gang-rape scene in *The Accused* ruffled

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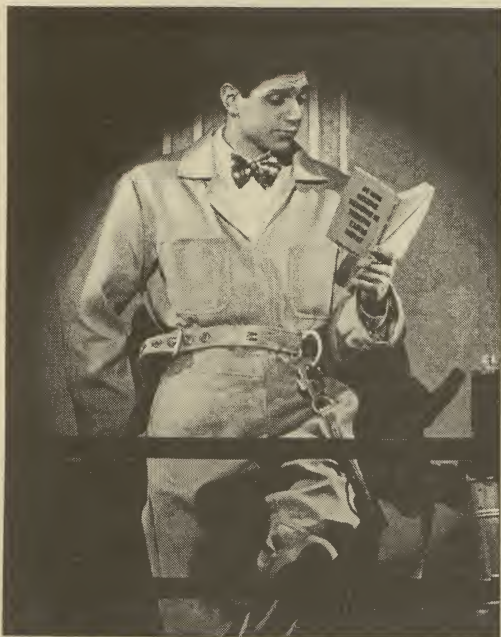
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Ralph Macchio in *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.

Style to spare

by Chad Jones

How to succeed on Broadway without really losing your shirt is one of the riskiest gambits around. The producers of the revival of Frank Loesser's 1961 *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* took that gamble and wound up with a big Broadway hit two seasons ago with Matthew Broderick playing the lead, J. Pierrepont Finch, an upwardly mobile window washer who, by show's end, is chairman of the board. No marketing dummies, the producers devised a slick logo and a nickname for the show: *H2S*, which is now on national tour and playing at the Golden Gate Theatre.

How to succeed on Broadway

involves know-how, something this production exhibits in abundance. *H2S* may well be the world's first computer-animated musical. Loesser's silly, satirical take on the shallowness of big business in the early '60s has been boldly brought into the '90s as a period piece set against a giant bank of video monitors that whisks viewers up and down and all over the World Wide Wickets Company building as well as through the downtown New York skyline. It's a show-offy gimmick, but this heartless show needs a kick and gets one.

Ralph Macchio, the *Karate Kid* himself, has taken over for Broderick and offers a similar, though less engaging caricature of a canny *naïf* on his ruthless climb to the top. His singing seems

specifically trained for this role, but he's charming and cute as can be in a bow tie.

The biggest kick in the show, aside from Loesser's bright, cheerfully sardonic score, comes late (almost too late) in the second act when the number "The Brotherhood of Man" becomes a rousing feel-good gospel number in the hands of Tina Fabrique as Executive Secretary Miss Jones.

With a swell cast and a slick production, audiences can enjoy this *How to Succeed* without really trying. ▼

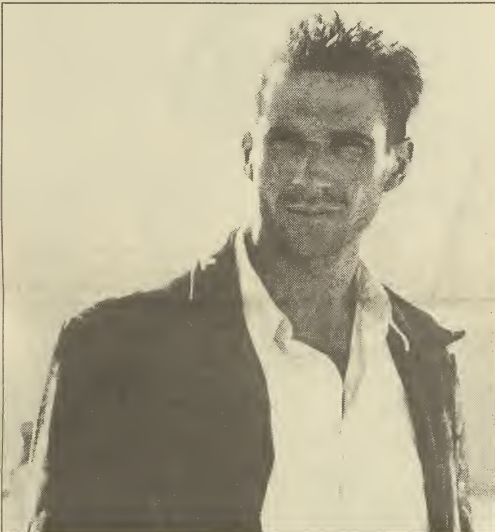
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying continues through December 8 at the Golden Gate Theatre. Call 776-1999 for information.

Of blood and sand

by Robert Julian

Director Anthony Minghella explored star-crossed lovers once before in *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, but not with the epic scope he brings to *The English Patient*. Here Minghella accomplishes what Bertolucci attempted with his flawed rendering of Paul Bowles' *The Sheltering Sky*. Minghella's adaptation of Michael Ondaatje's novel results in a desert epic that actually works. The requisite amounts of blood and sand are only the backdrop for a complex tale of love, war, infidelity, and betrayal.

Set in North Africa — before, during, and after World War II — *The English Patient* unfolds slowly, like a long epic poem. Kristin Scott Thomas and Ralph Fiennes are perfectly matched as onscreen lovers, with a parallel romance between Juliette Binoche and Naveen Andrews evolving in the wake of the Thomas/Fiennes lia-

Ralph Fiennes in Anthony Minghella's *The English Patient*.

son. Kudos to director Minghella, cinematographer John Seale, and Berkeley producer Saul Zaentz, for creating a stunning film that many said couldn't be made, or would have been made badly by others. Even a homosexual affair between a Sikh and an Englishman is referenced briefly, and tastefully. But this patient requires patience. The viewer willing to

surrender to the sweep of this extraordinary production should be prepared to exit the theater in a state of emotional devastation. As Hamlet remarks, "To sleep, perchance to dream ... ah, there's the rub." And dream you will. ▼

The English Patient is in general release.

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FILM

'Giant' mythmaking

Castro Theatre serves up restored 1956 epic

by Matthew Kennedy

The title says it all, a veritable plea to turn off those boob tubes and get back to the movie theatres. In the mid-'50s, studio executives were panicked enough by the lure of Lucy, Sgt. Bilk, Uncle Miltie and Miss Brooks to fashion big spectacles that only the silver screen could provide.

Of the era's many epics, George Stevens' *Giant* stands apart. *Ben Hur* and *The Ten Commandments* had sacred biblical texts as their defense for the widescreen, and *Around the World in Eighty Days* was a carnivalesque global travelogue. *The King and I* needed extra space to showcase Deborah Kerr's hoop skirts, and *Picnic* had that none-too-subtle body language of Kim Novak and William Holden to accommodate.

What did *Giant* have? Cattle, oil, endless miles of featureless Texas horizons, and the combined mythologies of Elizabeth Taylor, Rock Hudson and James Dean.

Based on a sprawling novel by Edna Ferber, *Giant* tells the story of three generations of cattle ranchers and oil tycoons. Every plot line that has been exhausted in subsequent night-time soap operas found its first audience in *Giant*. Even J.R., the initials of Dean's character, was borrowed for *Dallas*, the quintessential '80s serial of Texas-style greed and shoulder pads.

Jett Rink (Dean), the brooding ranch hand to Bick Benedict (Hudson), harbors a secret lust for Leslie Benedict (Taylor), Bick's outspoken Maryland bride. When Rink inherits a portion of the Benedict spread that is bursting with oil, antagonisms intensify. Rink and Benedict are guaranteed to spar over more than three hours of running time and just as many decades of plot time. The generations clash as the Benedicts' only son shows a terror for horses and wants to be a doctor. But what about the land? Tradition? At least he isn't gay, but he does shame the family by marrying a Mexican.

Career changes

Giant brought calculable changes to the careers of its stars. After the film, Hudson was seen as a real actor, not just scenery for "women's pictures" like *Magnificent Obsession*. And with *Giant*, Taylor got a reprieve from the gruel MGM regularly fed her (*Love Is Better Than Ever*, *The Girl Who Had Everything*) at Warner Bros. Dean broke away from adolescent roles and brought a frightening conviction to his last scenes as an alcoholic, middle-aged multimillionaire.

Sadly, for all this film's star power, there is a shortage of electricity between personalities assembled. You can see Dean getting worked up over Taylor, but their relationship is muted. There are few of the sparks Taylor managed for Montgomery Clift in Stevens' *A Place in the Sun* or Dean managed for Julie Harris in *East of Eden*. Taylor shows signs of the great harridan to come, but her Leslie Benedict is an improbable saint, solving the racial, sexual and economic injustices of the Lone Star State single-handedly. Hudson was never more convincing as a heterosexual, but his Bick

Benedict is full of such bullish prejudice that he comes off like a cartoon.

The sacred icon himself, James Dean, gives the weakest of his three featured film performances. Directors Elia Kazan (*East of Eden*) and Nicholas Ray (*Rebel Without a Cause*) had a greater understanding of Dean's tormented psyche than Stevens.

Giant has plenty to recommend it, though. Sprinkled throughout is an entertaining assortment of supporting characters who come and go through the years. Jane Withers is delightfully convincing as a tasteless nouveau riche Texas belle, and Mercedes McCambridge skulks around the big Benedict ranch home like an amazonian Mrs. Danvers. Carroll Baker is aglow with a starlet's ambitions, and the mere sight of young Sal Mineo as a doomed soldier is enough to bring a sigh of sad remembrance. There are also those indelible images of the fam-

ily home, Reata, rising up from the middle of nowhere.

However, *Giant's* towering reputation is due in no small part to the subsequent lives of its stars rather than its merits as a movie. The widescreen vistas are a touching visual reference to Dean's imminent death and, to a lesser degree, the last years of Mineo and Hudson. For me, the most effective moment has Dean swaggering onto his newly acquired parcel, his body darkened against the huge Texas sky while Dimitri Tiomkin supplies him with a warm melody. Here is the fortuitous coming together of blessed land, Dean's valedictory, and heaven preparing to receive him.

Tough slogging

Giant was a commercial and critical hit, gathering ten Oscar nominations and winning one for Stevens. There's no denying its importance to the careers of its

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James Dean shows a little cleavage in *Giant*.

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Enchanting 'Tales'

'The Tales of Hoffmann'

by Paul Thomason

At last! With its new production of Jacques Offenbach's *The Tales of Hoffmann*, the San Francisco Opera seems to have gotten back on track. The opening performance last week offered good singing, a production that was not embarrassing, and, perhaps best of all, a U.S.

opera debut in the grand tradition of the company.

Rumanian mezzo Ruxandra Donose (the Muse/Nicklausse) set the audience on fire and kept the corridors buzzing during both intermissions. Her voice is beautiful and even from top to bottom. She uses it superbly, phrases elegantly and musically, and is a riveting stage presence, looking great whether dressed as woman or man. Everything she did and sang seemed absolutely natural. Her staccati are amazingly accurate, although I could not tell about her trill. Still, she seems perfectly suited for roles like Cherubino, and one can only hope that the SF Opera will use the mezzo often and well.

Gerard Howland's set — an enormous quill pen stuck in a piece of unrolled parchment with blood trickling from the entry "wound" — is the first one this season that creatively uses the vast Civic Auditorium space. It is sim-

ple, arresting, and has at least a whiff of elegance about it.

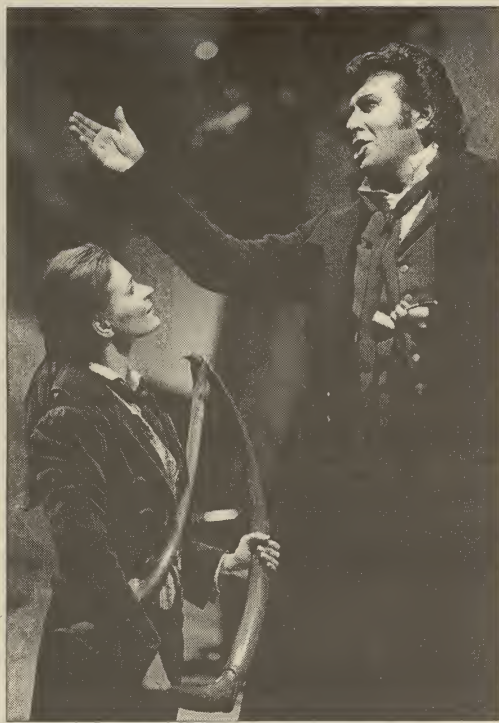
Unfortunately there were many dull spots in the performance, since conductor Steven Mercurio seemed to have no idea how to pace the numerous recitatives. The results brought new meaning to the term tedious. His inability to build musical tension over the course of a performance, or to keep the excitement going once a singer generated it during an aria, meant one of the most scintillating, constantly enjoyable scores in all of opera too often sounded labored and soggy.

Three things that were *not* labored were Hoffmann's three loves. As Antonia, Patricia Racette once again showed what a magical artist she is. Whether singing softly or loudly her soaring soprano was always filled with emotion. Tracy Dahl must get tired of hearing how perfectly her physique fits the part of the doll Olympia — but it does. Vocally, she is also a natural, though her coloratura was not always absolutely 100 percent accurate. On the other hand, she had to sing her big aria after lying on a steeply raked table for half an hour rather than being allowed to warm up in her dressing room. Such directorial nonsense must have made an already difficult aria even more so. Mezzo Catherine Keen was a nice, voluptuous Giulietta.

Samuel Ramey played all four villains, Lindorf, Coppelius, Dr. Miracle, and Dapertutto, and it is always a pleasure to hear such a solid, beautiful bass voice. The surprise was the blandness of Ramey's singing and stage presence, but perhaps that was due to the cavernous nature of the Civic, or maybe to lack of support from the conductor.

Cruel staging

The opera's title role is one of the most difficult tenor roles outside of the Wagner canon. It is high, dramatic, and very long. In general, Jerry Hadley finessed the part adroitly. He seldom belted and he worked hard to make Hoffmann a likable guy. Sometimes he sang sweetly and his high notes rang true. At other times, however, he obviously miscalculated the top of his voice. For my taste, he used rubato excessively, pushing and pulling individual phrases to try and disguise the fact that he was not sounding each note, and there was a dis-



Ruxandra Donose and Jerry Hadley in *The Tales of Hoffman*.

treasing amount of speaking, rather than singing.

Hadley was not helped by Christopher Alden's cruel staging, which made the part even longer by having Hoffmann (and his sidekick Nicklausse) on stage for all three acts, plus prologue and epilogue. Presumably this was to underscore that the separate stories are all part of Hoffmann's experience, but Offenbach often used Hoffmann's entrances and exits to score dramatic points, which Alden threw away by not allowing Hadley to enter and exit. (To say nothing of the fact it denied the singers a much-needed chance to rest.) This also meant that Hadley (and Donose) had an astonishing amount of pantomime in this production to fill the times they were not supposed to be on stage.

Alden's production did offer some wonderfully theatrical moments, for instance, the way his placement of the gondolier mimes suddenly turned the stage into a giant barge in the Giulietta scene, or the way Thomas J. Munn's hot pink lighting always accompanied Hoffmann putting on the spectacles in the Olympia scene, instantly creating a fantasy world. If his use of dozens of dolls, black funeral wreaths, and

mirrors (depending on the act) was overkill, at least it was not egregious.

Among the large supporting cast, Adler Fellows John Autry (Hermann) and John Relyea (Schlemil) were outstanding. And once again the artistry of Elizabeth Bishop (Antonia's Mother) clearly demonstrated she ought to be cast in much bigger parts. ▼

The Tales of Hoffmann continues at the Civic Auditorium through December 3. For tickets (\$8 to \$125) and information, call (415) 864-3330.

Giant

◀ page 41

director and stars, but it hints at the specter of calamity. The last hour, when cattle land makes way for oil wells, swimming pools and Cadillacs, is a clunking embarrassment. There's tough slogging through pounds of horrifically bad old-age makeup. When a grayed 23-year-old Taylor has a heart-to-heart talk with her 19-year-old "son" Hopper, beware spontaneous guffaws and flashbacks to sophomore drama class.

The final images of one white baby and one brown baby are sweet, and Stevens seems intent on sending a message, but what have we been watching for the last 200 minutes? A plea for ethnic tolerance and hope for a brave new world? A polemic against greed and American capitalism?

If it's the former, then why did 99 percent of the action revolve around white people? If it's the latter, then why embody wealth, private property and a happy ending in the supremely attractive packages of Taylor and Hudson? There are murky morals here, but they take a back seat to more romantic priorities. *Giant* remains a wistful and fitful classic of nostalgia for its stars and for a style of moviemaking long gone. ▼

Giant plays November 28-December 5 at the Castro Theatre.

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Madonna Peron

Material girl has the chops

by Stephanie von Buchau

With the release last week of the soundtrack to Alan Parker's new film, *Evita* (coming to the Bay Area January 5), there are now four recordings of the Tim Rice/Andrew Lloyd Webber collaboration. Few modern operas — and *Evita* is an opera; it is entirely sung — can make that claim. And why shouldn't it? *Evita* has a terrific score, full of teasingly twisted tunes and Latin rhythms, many of them subtler than the work's most quotable anthem, "Don't Cry for Me, Argentina."

The definitive *Evita* recording is the British world premiere from 1978, with Elaine Paige (*Evita*), David Essex (*Che*), and Joss Ackland (*Peron*); it is a single disc that distills the best music but leaves out the connective tissue. Parker's album (Warner Bros. 46346-2; two discs) purports to be the "complete music soundtrack." There are significant musical differences in the film from both the British and American (starring Patti LuPone and Mandy Patinkin) stage versions.

The first thing everybody wants to know is can Madonna compete with West End and Broadway divas like Paige and LuPone? In a word, yes. The *Material Girl* is one of the most deceptively intelligent stars in show biz, and you can literally hear why she campaigned so hard for the role of Eva Peron. Madonna effortlessly projects the multiple contradictions that made *Evita* so popular and so deadly — the ambition and vulnerability, innocence and sexuality, qualities that could describe the singer herself.

In an imperious gesture that exposes Madonna's vanity at the same time it illuminates her musical perspicacity, the American pop star co-opted the show's best song, "Another Suitcase in Another Hall." In the original, it is sung by Peron's young mistress, who gets ruthlessly evicted by new girlfriend Eva. But Madonna recognized that the tender melody would perfectly suit her voice and give *Evita* much-needed credibility.

Throughout the score, Madonna maintains a ladylike veneer that is pure campaign bull. Anyone who assumes this is meant as a whitewash of the conniving *Evita* has only to listen to a line of dialogue at her first meeting with Argentine strongman, Juan Peron (Jonathan Pryce): "Are you alone?" he asks hopefully, and Madonna breathes "Oh, yes" with the promise of extra-kinky sex dripping off her sweet little tongue. Then they duet on the irresistible *beguine* "I'd Be Surprisingly Good for You," my favorite number in the show. The big discovery here is that Pryce, the original Engineer in *Miss Saigon*, can sing, too.

The final member of the leading trio is the narrator Che Guevara, and you don't need me to tell you that not only is Antonio Banderas a major babe but he can deliver the music with perfect, Spanish-accented irony. My only complaint with this splendid album is that the photo-rich accompanying booklet is *Schimp City* — no notes, lyrics, or timings. ▼



Madonna as Eva Peron.

The return of Linda Perry

by Adrian Roberts

Admittedly, I was never a big fan of *4 Non-Blondes*. Although I wanted to like them — they were, after all, cool local dykes — their music never did it for me. Unlike the millions who bought the *Bigger, Better, Faster, More* album back in 1992, I found their sound just a tad too pedestrian and generic.

Needless to say then, I wasn't expecting much from *In Flight*, lead singer Linda Perry's long-awaited solo album. But after one listen, it became obvious why she broke up *4 Non-Blondes*. "When it came time to make the second record," Linda says in the press release, "I was in a different place musically than the rest of the band. So I packed my guitar and my vocal chords and began a solo journey."

And that journey is full of surprises. Unlike her work with *4 Non-Blondes*, Linda is no longer afraid to quiet things down, to get moody, introspective. The result is by far a more varied and interesting record than anything she's done before. Gone is that overblown vocal delivery, which she's replaced with an assured intensity that lends conviction to her lyrics, like on the plangent "Success," where she sings: "Will success fail me? What they tell me I should want isn't what I need." A revealing line to be sure, and one that seems to sum up her burgeoning solo career nicely.

Elsewhere on the record, things go from the vaguely psychedelic, such as her duet with Grace Slick, "Knock Me Out," to the more vaudeville sound of "Fruitloop Daydream." Obviously, for her first solo outing, Linda is experimenting, trying on different styles for size. And while they don't all fit the same way, she wears them well regardless. ▼



Jay Blauert

Linda Perry plays at 9 p.m. this Wed., Dec. 4th, at Slim's, 333 11th Street. Tickets are \$12-\$14. Call 522-0333 for more info.

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SF Chronicle

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Toothless invective

by Daniel Harris

Anti-Gay, edited by Mark Simpson; Freedom Editions, \$14.95

Anti-Gay is a miscellaneous selection of essays by disputatious malcontents who rail, frequently with good reason, against the mediocrity and commercialism of life in the urban ghetto. Written in an acid style that is ultimately too arch and withering for its own good, the collection reflects genuine fatigue with the conventional gay lifestyle as embodied in such demoralizing monuments of subcultural vacuity as "Don't Panic" T-shirts, rainbow-colored Freedom Rings, and AIDS Awareness watches — sad testaments to the fact that liberation has liberated us out of the closets and into the department stores and mail-order catalogues.

While somewhat unfocused, *Anti-Gay* does contain a number of interesting pieces — most notably by that uncompromising curmudgeon, novelist John Weir, who excoriates assimilated gays as "pod people" and proudly declares himself a "postgay, a counterqueen, the ungrateful beneficiary of the gains of gay liberation." Similarly, film critic Paul Burstyn categorically rejects the censoriousness of those hectoring image ecologists who lambaste directors who refuse to force-feed their audiences medicinal doses of "positive" images of happy, well-adjusted gays.

Despite the presence of a few worthwhile pieces, however, *Anti-Gay* is at best a gratuitous act of bitching against the unshakable complacency of the gay status quo, whose Middle-American wholesomeness the authors attempt to undermine by advocating such diabolically subversive things as bisexuality, a phenomenon they treat as a shocking affront to the entrenched interests of a moribund subculture. In articles by Joe Eadie and Lisa Power, bisexuals are described as a transgressive force capable of shattering Western civilization as we know it today, a terrorist organization whose members blur oppressive erotic boundaries and sabotage gender polarities.

At times the book is so strident in its rejection of the hum-drum marital pleasures of old-fashioned pederasty that I found myself asking what is wrong with fixed



Contributor Bruce LaBruce.

boundaries, with the "binary opposites" that would-be sexual revolutionary Marge Garber, one of the beloved fairy godmothers of the queer studies movement, so ineptly dismantles. When did we succumb hook, line, and sinker to this lame idea that we are incomplete as people if we don't experience a little bit of everything, if we don't go around grazing on life's smorgasbord of sexual possibilities, sampling all of its various dishes, taking a little chocolate with our peanut brittle, a little of the hot and spicy flavors of the Orient with our Campbell's Soup and tuna-noodle casserole? This notion of well-roundedness is rooted not in any radical vision of the nonconformist, but in a basically conservative vision of the good citizen, the healthy team

player who always welcomes new experiences. Let's hear it for people who are not well-rounded, who are composites of jagged angles and sharp corners, and who consider the reigning pieties about bisexuality little more than a by-product of a hidebound belief in the moral rectitude of maintaining an open mind.

It is also highly ironic that a book that prides itself on spurning the trite orthodoxies of contemporary gay culture should itself be rooted in one of the most conventional features of its intellectual life, its servile homage to the postmodern literary theorists who have provided the foundation for the entire queer studies industry. In article after article, the usual line of unsavory suspects is marched out for inspection and reverently praised, their cryptic utterances sifted through with Talmudic pedantry, from such canonic porno pod persons as Foucault, Freud, Bataille, Barthes, and Genet to two local academic heroes, the mephitic Judith Butler and the execrable Leo Bersani. Given the tendency towards cultish toadysm on the part of writers who lap thirstily at this puddle of pseudo-intellectual puke, I question whether the authors in *Anti-Gay* really flout the stereotypes they profess to abhor or in fact confirm them, subscribing wholeheartedly to the affectations and mediocrity of the mafia of Foucauldian epigones who constitute what passes for a gay intelligentsia. ▼

FILM

Queen of terror

In 101 *Dalmations*, currently in general release, Glenn Close (pictured) chews up the scenery as Cruella De Vil. Her Cruella first appears with the wide-eyed psychotic stare of the star's recent Broadway Norma Desmond. She speaks with the accent of Eleanor Bron's villainess in *Help!*, shrieks like the Wicked Witch of the West in *The Wizard of Oz*, and inspires the same sort of general terror as Cloris Leachman's Frau Blüher in *Young Frankenstein*. Cruella's only moment of restraint occurs when she encounters a troop of scampering Disney bunnies and she doesn't boil them. As *Entertainment Weekly* recently put it, Close's characterization will likely "inspire a new generation of drag queens." ▼



— Will Shank

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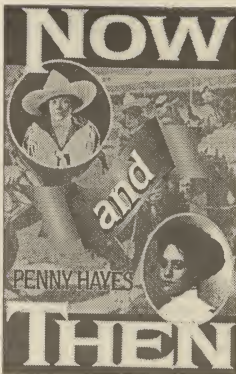
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BOOKS



Westward the women

by Deborah Peifer

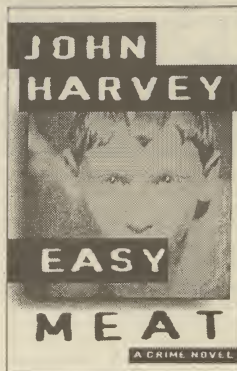
Now and Then by Penny Hayes; Naiad, \$10.95

Penny Hayes, Naiad's gifted writer of period novels, returns us to the thrilling days of yesteryear in her latest work. Set in the late 19th-century, *Now and Then* is a vivid and romantic exploration of the urban East and the still (at least in 1888) Wild West.

Elsa is a browbeaten easterner, living with her flighty father and dour mother, who believes deeply, thanks to dime novels and Wild West shows, in a romantic view of the American West. When she has a chance to speak to Wynn Carson, a star trick rider in Buffalo Bill Cody's show, Elsa's excitement becomes rapturous. A promise of correspondence with Wynn elevates modified rapture to ecstasy. Alas, her mother despises theater folk, and destroys the letters from Wynn. When Elsa learns of her mother's treachery, she is able for the first time to stand up to her. When she hooks up with Wynn, well, you'll have to read the book to learn what happens next.

Hayes is extraordinarily skilled at creating a real sense of period. Her exploration of Wynn and Elsa's discovery of the joys of back rubs (and front rubs, if you catch my meaning) is delightful. Hayes captures the urban life of New York in the 1890s with all the gritty detail that is the hallmark of her work. It is in her recreation of the West, however, that Hayes truly shines. Her stories of our

foremothers remind us that we come from courageous stock. *Now and Then* is an entertaining novel filled with the stuff of adventure and true love. Now, I ask you, what can top that? ▼



Putrid meat

by Deborah Peifer

Easy Meat by John Harvey; Holt, \$23

Irarely read gay male fiction, and less often do I tiptoe into the bizarre world of heterosexual male fiction. I was reminded why when I recently read John Harvey's *Easy Meat* and discovered that it has as its major turning point the revelation that the murder victim is a homosexual! Oh, the horror! This shocking, apocalyptic news appears on page 311 of this 388-page mystery, but let me tell you, there is no mystery in this pathetic paean to homophobia.

When Inspector Charlie Resnick investigates a brutal attack on an elderly couple, forensic and other evidence leads to 15-year-old Nicky Snape. Nicky is sent to a children's home, where he hangs himself a few days later. Resnick is convinced that there is more than simple suicide in the boy's death, but because Resnick has managed to alienate the director of the home, he is forced to assign Bill Aston, an over-the-hill detective, to the investigation. When said detective is found bludgeoned to death, Resnick sees conspiracies everywhere, and sets in motion investigations into racist gangs, the children's homes, and everyone who ever had contact with Snape or Aston. Oh yes, and Resnick meets and falls in lust

with Hannah Campbell and they have sex a few times, the purpose of which, as far as I could discern, was to eliminate any hint of the dread homosexuality.

It's not so much that Harvey is a bad writer; in fact, some of his paragraphs are really quite fine, as in this description of Nicky's mother Norma as a young woman: "When her mother's man friend, the reason they had moved to Huddersfield, backed Norma up against the cellar wall one night and tried to squeeze her breasts, Norma hit him with the coal scuttle hard below the knees and told him if he ever touched her again, she'd cut off his dick and feed it to the ducks. After that, he could never walk in the local park without his eyes beginning to water. And Norma learned there were things in her life she could control if she tried." That's a wonderful description, and if Norma were anything but peripheral to the plot, I'd be glad to read it. But Harvey goes on for pages on tangents like this, and the result is neither richness nor texture, but rather an author out of control.

As for the mystery, well, I figured out the "queer" plot somewhere around page 200, and had to wade through another hundred pages just to get to the shocking revelation. Gay men in Harvey's England are busy hiding in the closet, when they are not being viciously raped by, you guessed it, latent homosexuals. Harvey supplies lots of detail but very little depth in his exploration of English poverty, English racism, and English homophobia. *Easy Meat* is insulting to gays and is a complete failure as a mystery. ▼



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Reverend Gomes

◀ Arts cover

by Book-of-the-Month Club. Last week, I spoke to Gomes via phone from his hotel in Atlanta.

Al Cunningham: What prompted you to come out at the *Peninsula* rally?

Peter Gomes: It was because others had said it. There was an administrator who worked in one of the [Harvard] College departments, a man of great honor and integrity, who had lived an openly gay lifestyle for many years, and was known to be openly gay. This man stood up on the platform just before me and said to these very agitated young people, "Look, it is alright. It is possible to be a decent person and a homosexual, and as one I want to give you my support as you go through this tough time." Well, I was so impressed by his sympathy and his empathy that I thought I ought to do the same thing. This was the moment to express solidarity with these young people. This was the moment to indicate that it is possible to reconcile these principles,

which appear to be at odds, the Christian faith on the one hand, and homosexuality on the other. It was the simple, straightforward testimony of two or three people who spoke before me that simply moved me to join them. And that's what I did.

In a recent profile in *The New Yorker* (Nov. 11) you comment on the "culture of homosexuality" and question whether or not such a thing actually exists. Is there a movement afoot to establish an upscale, homogenous (read: white) gay culture that seeks mainstream acceptance?

If you simply go on the most visible aspects of the culture, the culture that would appear to reflect itself in magazines, mainstream movies, and popular images, both in and beyond gay culture, it's lean, it's white, it's upscale, it's carefree, it's artsy, it's intellectually cutting edge, it's naughty, it's flashy, it's all that sort of stuff. Now, having said all of that, what is that? I really don't know. You add it all up and I'm not sure that it comes to a lifestyle, or a culture, or a civilization. And even if it does, it certainly doesn't seem to represent the whole range of cul-

tural expressions and experiences that would be co-equal with the number of people who are homosexuals, who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender. I certainly would suspect that there is more to homosexual culture than what one reads in *Ten Percent*, *Out* magazine, *The Advocate*, or any of those publications, which are largely upwardly mobile, middle-class, white market-oriented publications.

What would you say to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people of African descent who find themselves caught between what they perceive to be the homophobia of the African American community and the racism of the white gay community?

I think that's probably the worst of all possible positions, because I think the African American cultural community has a mortal sin on its soul for its disdainful and hypocritical treatment of African American homosexuals. Our churches do not speak out on the issue of AIDS; our churches seem to want to look the other way. We accept the loyalty, the money, the support, and the talent of black homosexuals on the one hand,

and, on the other, spout a kind of unthinking evangelical bias, a biblicalism, against homosexuality. Coupled with the general racism that permeates the culture, the black homosexual who seeks to be a Christian and live responsibly in the world has a tremendous burden to bear.

My counsel, such as it is, is simply to accept the fact that we are more than the sum total of our particularities. I am, we are, more than gay, we are more than black, we are more than Americans, and we are certainly more than victims of prejudice and discrimination. I rarely quote Jesse Jackson, but I think it was a powerful affirmation when he used to go around saying, "I am somebody!" I think that is a terribly important thing that we have to say, that our identity is not derived from permission from these other sources. Once that kind of self-affirmation is made, then I think we will be affirming ourselves as whole people. And that is the ultimate bottom line. We must not allow ourselves to be defined by other people. I've spent my life refusing to be defined by other people, whether they be white people, black people, or gay people.

bate again. We're going to have this conversation at another level; we're simply not going to respond at the level of hurling anathemas at each other.

My sense is that people are hungry and thirsting for the means to discuss these questions at a level of intellectual integrity and civility. They are eager to understand the relationship of their gay children to the Christian faith, the relationship of their gay neighbor, or their gay friend, or themselves, to the Bible. And they are not content any longer to simply take what some evangelical preacher or conservative columnist or what not says is God's word. Now, I'll make a prediction, which is always risky in my business, but I'll make it. I have demonstrated, I hope clearly and persuasively in my book, that what were once thought to be undebatable and ironclad, fixed positions, positions that were injurious to a particular portion of the community, whether it be Jews, women, or blacks, were in our lifetime turned completely around and upside down. I believe we will live to see the same sort of evolution in our thinking about the relationships between homosexuality and what the Bible does and does not teach, and more importantly, what the community of our fellow citizens will accept as right and decent, and appropriate.

I think one of the reasons that the Religious Right is so fired up about homosexuality is not because they believe it's a minor element that is going to go away, but because they believe they are fighting against the tide of history — and they are! I think we've demonstrated that in other cases, and I think it's certainly going to be the case here. Not necessarily in our time, and it may not be exactly on our terms, but the direction is unambiguous. We're on the right side, and that's the exciting thing. ▼

Reverend Gomes will host a book signing at MCC San Francisco, 150 Eureka Street, Wednesday, December 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Al Cunningham is a writer, AIDS activist, and independent multimedia producer currently co-authoring and editing the book, "Yours in the Struggle: Remembering Gay AIDS Activists of African Descent," with Reggie Williams.

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Memorable and quotable from 'The Good Book':

"The language of the Bible is meant always to point us to a truth beyond the text, a meaning that transcends the particular and imperfectly understood context of the original writers, and our own prejudices and parochialisms that we bring to the text. Literalism is not part of the solution to this problem — literalism is the problem."

"Given the appeal to the Bible in the case against homosexuality, one would assume that the Bible has much to say on the subject. It has not ... the scripture has so little to say about homosexuality that it cannot be called upon to resolve the contemporary church's debates about homosexuality or address itself to the modern complexity of human sexuality."

"The biblical writers never contemplated a form of homosexuality in which loving, monogamous, and faithful persons sought to live out the implications of the gospel with as much fidelity to it as any heterosexual believer. All they knew of homosexuality was prostitution, pederasty, lasciviousness, and exploitation. These virtues, as we know, are not unknown among heterosexuals, and to define contemporary homosexuals only in these terms is a cultural slander of the highest order, reflecting not so much prejudice, which it surely does, but what the Roman Catholic Church calls 'invincible ignorance,' which all of the Christian piety and charity in the world can do little to conceal. The 'problem,' of course, is not the Bible, it is the Christians who read it."

"With evil working overtime, virtue cannot be a hobby."

OUT THERE

Out There

page 39

the feathers of judge Deena Davenport, who continually screamed "I hate this!" throughout the entire performance.

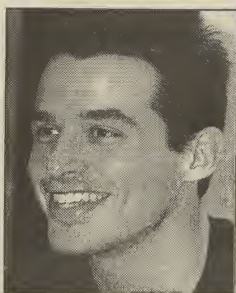
To prove that she did not have misogynistic intentions, Darlin' performed virtually the exact same act at Trannyshack this past Tuesday, only this time she was raped by lipstick lesbians, instead of frat boy jocks. Funny how just a little gender-fuck can turn a politically incorrect mock rape scene into a dyke SM performance piece.

Eternal Babs

Two dollars and fifty cents doesn't buy one much entertainment in the '90s, yet that's all you need to enter the Barbra Zone, a dimension where the rules of time and space are radically suspended. Since its grand opening earlier this year, Hello Gorgeous, the shrine to **Barbra Streisand** on Castro Street (between 18th and 19th) has brought smiles and, yes, tears to thousands of Streisand fans passing through our fair city. Behind this unusual masterpiece of pop idolatry lies the unassuming but impassioned **Ken Joachim**, originally from Cleveland, Ohio. In his last job, Joachim led Japanese tourists on vintage shopping trips across the U.S., and now he leads Barbra fans down the path of worship. Joachim has clearly built a business on passion, but, like all other small business entrepreneurs, weathering economic vicissitudes is never easy. "I have everything resting on Barbra," he confides, warning that "if the museum is not supported by the community and her fans" the Hello Gorgeous train will come to a full stop.

Hello Gorgeous provides the full-service Streisand experience. In addition to life-size dioramas and portraits of the star painted at various phases of her life, there are Streisand-style wigs for sale in the gift shop alongside long pink press-on nails that no true fan can resist. There are innumerable photographs and curious stretchings from Barbra's earliest endeavors up to her most recent film, *The Mirror Has Two Faces*. Collectors can sell their wares on consignment, but, ironically, word of Hello Gorgeous has only made some collectors hold on even tighter to those dusty Barbra albums and dog-eared TV Guides bearing her face.

Spending so much time focused on Streisand has given the museum's owner more than a few insights into the diva's lifestyle. "I have a feeling that she won't come here. I think she has a policy where she keeps a separate life from her fans. I think she keeps them at bay." Joachim is quick to point out, however, that "I never did any of this to get a visit or a letter." Still, Joachim says that many who visit the store are of-



Antonio Sabato, Jr.

fended that the object of their affection has yet to make the trek to Castro Street. "There are hardcore fans who find it disgusting."

The road to Barbradom has not been easy. There was a harrowing search for the right space, as well as a landlord who would believe in Joachim's vision. But despite obstacles, Joachim remains hopeful and ever-devoted. "I get letters all the time saying thank you for what you've done. It's about time. If my place closes tomorrow," he says, "Barbra will still go on. She is just too much of a ball of talent to die."

Joachim isn't about to let that happen. Plans for the near future include a Hello Gorgeous mail-order catalog featuring all the Streisandiana on sale in the gift shop, and several exciting new exhibits: freshly cast Barbra face-masks made by Androids Company in Oakland; and the *piece de resistance*, a replica of the tug boat from *Funny Girl*, which upon the press of a button features Barbra singing "Don't Rain On My Parade." As much as that song stands for Barbra, it also stands for Joachim, who gives new meaning to the idea of star worship.

Fox terrier shreds fresh corpse

Ticky-tacky, rumor-mongering **Boze Hadleigh**, recently referred to in these pages as "the fox terrier of journalism," is at it again. The diatribous windbag behind such tawdry tomes as *Hollywood Lesbians* and *Conversations with My Elders*, books in which the author outs gay and lesbian celebrities after they are dead, is about to publish a new fish wrap, this one provocatively titled, *Bette Davis Speaks* (Barricade Books, \$22). We haven't seen the work yet, but we did stumble across a snippy review of it in the film journal *Classic Images*. According to the reviewer, **Bette Davis** doesn't reveal herself in these pages as a lesbian but, as "egged on" by busy-body Hadleigh, she does dish up homo gossip about other celebrities. Thankfully, the reviewer sidesteps Hadleigh's befouled dish and cuts to the chase: "As in all of Hadleigh's books, one gets the impression that the gentlemen has little refinement and even less knowledge of anything outside of

gay and lesbian Hollywood gossip. Without the individuals whom he outs, Mr. Hadleigh is nothing."

Queen's lament

Antonio Sabato Jr., the exquisitely attractive star of the **Calvin Klein** underwear juggernaut, was at Macy's last Saturday as part of the unveiling of CK's new 2,000 square foot underwear shop, which has taken over the back right corner of the first floor of Macy's, the space formerly occupied by the Polo Sportshop. According to one of our spies who attended the opening, the event was surprisingly subdued. The only thing Mr. Sabato Jr. took off was his jacket, and the only things he signed were posters of his callipygian splendor, packaged ever-so tastefully in Cal's blazing white briefs.

The quelled tone of this CK moment was remarkably different from the last Underpants Spectacle CK brought to San Francisco, in 1992, when former undie model **Marky Mark** teasingly tugged at his Levi's to reveal his shorts and gleefully scrawled his name across the various specimens of new and old *sous-vêtements* thrust under his nose by horny queens in need of a testosterone high. What's more, in '92 Marky was greeted at Macy's door by a throng of well-wishing faggots so thick the young thing could barely gain entrance to the building. No such scene attended Mr. Sabato's event. "It was mostly girls," said photographer **Ricky Gerharter**, who, in anticipation of a Sabato striptease, showed up in a drool-staunching bib. "It just isn't the same," he whined, stamping his foot. Never before has that queenly lament seemed more appropriate. ▼

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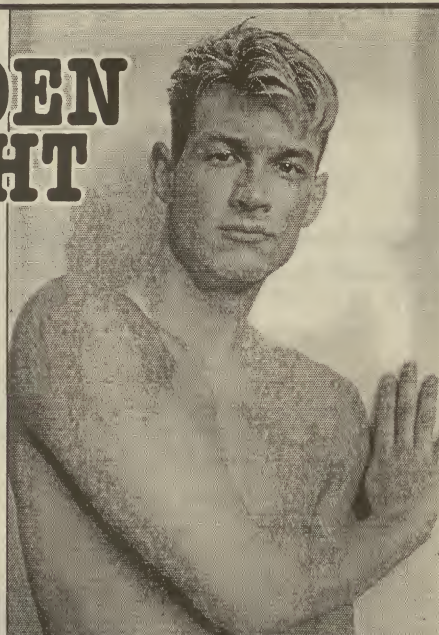
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Where the bears are!

by Mister Marcus

The world of titles and sashes is not exclusive to the leather community. Although royal titles are going on 35 years as of 1997, the bestowing of leather titles (since 1979 when International Mr. Leather was unleashed by Chuck Renslow in Chicago) has filtered down to the grassroots level, with bar titles, community titles, city titles, and state and regional titles – most leading eventually up to international status. Aside from International Mr. Drummer and American Leatherman/Woman/Cowboy and Boy, the newest group in the title world are the Mr. Bear titles, which have sprung up around the world in just the past five years.

The Lone Star Saloon in San Francisco is probably the most famous bear meeting place in the world. Everywhere I travel, I either see those embroidered Levi jackets, baseball caps with the distinguished red star or T-shirts bearing that bar's logo. And it's about time.

Big, hairy men who do not tolerate nonsense or nelliness are claiming their place in the sun. And like their leather brothers, the bear community is no stranger to the loss of loved ones to the AIDS epidemic; they are on the front lines raising money not only for the sick but for other causes as well.

While leather competitions are in progress all over our country, the bear community, without a whole lot of fanfare, is also gearing up to send bear men to compete in San Francisco next February for the International Mr. Bear 1997 title.

Bear clubs, competitions, memorabilia, hats, pins, T-shirts, caps and almost a half-dozen bear magazines are flourishing. There have been big bear bash conventions and week-ends in various parts of the U.S.A., but the granddaddy of them all is Bear Rendezvous in San Francisco, scheduled for the February 21-24 weekend. This is a fundraising event put on by the Bears of San Francisco. In the past two years, BOSF has raised some \$35,000 for various local, state and national charities. That same weekend is the Imperial Court's 35th coronation, so you can expect our community to be overrun with tiaras and bear tracks as the mid-winter weekend plays out.

The deadline for the International Bear Rendezvous '97 week-



The Bay Area's entries in the International Mr. Bear '97 contest next February are Mr. South Bay Bear Steve Hanson (left) and Mr. San Francisco Bear Bill Adams.

end package is January 31, 1997. The Ramada Hotel on 8th and Market is the host hotel where most of the action will take place, except for bar events and the bear play parties. For more information, write to BOSF, 2215-R Market St., No. 266, San Francisco, CA 94114 or e-mail to: bosf@htg.org. As plans develop, I'll keep you updated.

Remember the departed



Bazaar

December 1 is World AIDS Day, with planned AIDS observances all over the globe. The AIDS Emergency Fund will have its treasury enriched through the sale of four-inch-long red paper ribbons, which you can buy for \$1 each at some 100 bars and then inscribe the name(s) of those you wish to remember. The ribbons will be on display for the whole month. Mr. San Francisco Leather Gary Virginia (he never rests!) is involved with this project along with other leather leaders. Leslie Ewing appreciates your efforts!

Fun while it lasted

There are a lot of great bartenders in our community. The

SF-Eagle has always had good bartenders, but they just lost one of the best who ever pulled caps and slid those cocktails across the bar. I'm sad to report that Ritch McFarland, a veteran of many men's and women's bars in San Francisco, passed over last Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 20.

Ritch could jump into leathers, Levis, twinky duds or a dress and be accepted virtually everywhere he traveled on account of his sparkling, caring personality. His legend reached beyond the confines of San Francisco.

To this day, bartenders everywhere ask when you order, "Do you want the Ritch McFarland version or mine?" His PC (a bar measurement) was borderline, and other bartenders often wondered how he managed to elude the stringent PC count enforced in many establishments. Women, leather and otherwise, were extremely fond of Ritch. At his recent 50th birthday party at the Eagle, some of the big kahunas of women's bars were there to help him celebrate, and being Ritch, he showed up in a flaming red dress!

As his health waned, loyal friends and customers frequently visited Ritch while he was hospitalized. They reported over and over that Mr. McFarland was in



Big interest in the bear tribe – six contestants vied for the Mr. South Bay Bear title at the Gaslighter in Campbell on Sunday, Nov. 10.

LEATHER SCENE

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, Nov. 28

It's Thanksgiving Day! Gobble or be gobbled, whatever. Thanks to all the volunteers serving food in countless kitchens all over the city, and thanks to all of you for your generous donations!

Weekend, Nov. 28-Dec. 1

Leatherfest in Toronto with a roast of Duncan MacLachlan on Thursday and a meet and greet on Friday. The Toronto Leather Contest on Saturday is hosted by IML Joe Gallagher and Ms. NLA International Mary Dante. On Sunday: "Get Linked" Brunch, Spearhead Toys for Tots and an Underwear Party. Thanks, Duncan, for a great year with the title!

Choosing the leather 1996-97 leather daddy, daddy's boy and granddaddy at the Cuff Bar in Seattle on Saturday night, Nov. 30, beginning at 1900, with entertainment by the fabulous Empress CoCo!

Saturday, Nov. 30

Pegasus MOC '97 Stuff 'n' Run bike trip leaves from the Castro Station bar at 0930 to Calistoga at the north end of Napa Valley, with lunch at a mystery location. Non-members bring lunch and bridge toll money. For details, call Mr. or Mrs. MOC Road Captain Ken or Kevin at (408) 241-1917.

Tony Award-winner Jennifer Holliday headlines at Club Universe (177 Townsend) tonight, a \$13 benefit for Ark of Refuge. Doors open at 2130. Reserve by calling 985-5241.

Sunday, Dec. 1

International Mr. Deaf Leather Daniel and Ms. Golden Gate Leather Beth host the World AIDS Day benefit beer bust at the Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8 - a fundraiser for the MCC Foundation with enter-

tainment by Jungle Red!

The Forum of SF's annual holiday party at the Andora Inn (2434 Mission), 1700-2000 - a fabulous spot for the annual gathering (by invite or club overlay only)!

Tuesday, Dec. 3

Workshop by the Harvey Milk Institute, 1900-2200, at Club Eros entitled: "Explore the World of Fetish and Kink." \$12. More info? Call 552-7200.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Lou Duff (The Rope Woman) presents "Let's Go Shopping," a walking tour of the heavy leather and bondage devices at A Taste of Leather, 1800-1930, \$10. Includes in-store 15 percent discount with registration.

UCSF AIDS Health Project presents a community discussion, "Oral Sex, How Safe?" Open to the public in the community room at Blow Buddies (933 Harrison), 1845-2130. For more info, call Mike Discepolo at 502-6101.

Thursday, Dec. 5

Basket Contest at The Edge, with \$6 beer bust, 2000-2300. Contest is at 2200. Win \$100 and a photo session with Joe Baldocchi. Benefits AEF.

Friday, Dec. 6

Meet the 1997 Bare Chest Calendar men at a calendar signing party at the Andora Inn (2434 Mission), 1900-2100.

Saturday, Dec. 7

Santa's Slave Auction and \$5 beer bust or \$8 with food at the Turf Club in Hayward, 2000-2300, with live entertainment. Hosted by Randy Wright and the 1997 Bare Chest Calendar men, plus the Alameda County Leather Corps.

good spirits and his usual jovial self. A good man. A bartender's bartender. In bars, where interactions range from heavy cruising to heavy political debate and even the hatching of grandiose events that turn into traditions, Ritch McFarland stands - and will forever stand - in the winner's circle. He will be sorely missed, but oh, it was fun while it lasted! At my deadline, plans for a memorial service had not been finalized.

A decade of service

The Golden Gate Guards Motorcycle Club celebrated its 10th anniversary last Saturday night, November 23, on the patio of the SF-Eagle. The big crowd on hand was testament to the popularity of the group, which started out as an honor guard for the Imperial Family of San Francisco. The club's participation in many other community events has served to enhance both their visibility and a reputation for volunteerism.

Jack Goodall, who's stepping down as president, is one of the influential people behind the group. His direction of the club has placed it in the forefront of service to the community.

The new president of the club is the popular Andy Rose. Besides his bartending job at the Castro Station, Andy has graced the SoMa Bare Chest Calendar; he



International Mr. Drummer Kyle Brandon (left) poses with International Mr. Leather Joe Gallagher at the Mr. Leather Master contest in New York on Saturday, Nov. 16.

was chosen Mr. SF-Eagle Leather 1993-94; and still reigns as the Krewe de Cuir's King of Leather after three years. He also serves each year in Chicago at International Mr. Leather as one of the contestant coordinators.

The other officers for the coming year are vice president, Jim Owens; treasurer, Jason Fontaine; recording secretary, Lou Grosso; road captain, Jack Goodall; and corresponding secretary, Sam Medrano. I am looking forward to

working with Sam!

The soirée at the Eagle last Saturday night was a jubilant one. A sumptuous buffet (prepared by Andy and Dick Manning) graced the serving tables, and Jack Goodall gave out awards and commendations to people who helped him during the years of his presidency. It was a great night, and the community joins hands in extending best wishes to the GGG for continued success in all their future endeavors. ▼



New GGG officers (l to r): Jason Fontaine, treasurer; Lou Grosso, recording secretary; Andy Rose, president; Jack Goodall, road captain; Jim Owens, vice president; and Sam Medrano, corresponding secretary.

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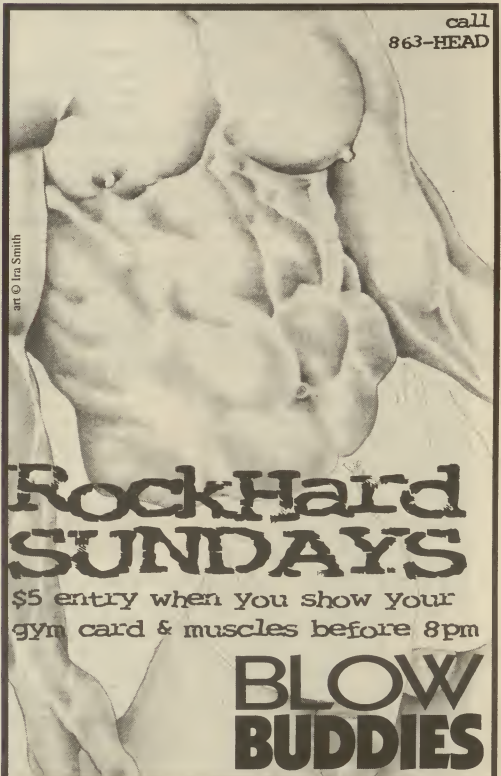
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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



Passage, a collaborative site-specific performance piece at the Jon Sims Center on World AIDS Day.

This year's WAD

This Sunday, December 1, marks the 9th annual World AIDS Day, begun by the Association for World Health to bring about a global focus on AIDS. On this, also a Day Without Art, art museums and galleries worldwide shroud key paintings and sculptures. Here are a few more ways the day will be observed in the Bay Area:

- The Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts presents *Passage*, a site-specific multi-location performance piece by Rick Darnell of High Risk Group, composer Kathryn Lyle, video artist Jeffrey Winter and quite a few others, for two shows at 6 and 8 p.m. Tickets are on a sliding scale from \$5 to \$10. (1519 Mission, 554-0402)

- Berkeley Store Gallery hosts an art auction party to benefit the AIDS advocacy of ACT UP/East Bay. We're promised entertainment, refreshments, and guest speaker Jeff "Baboon Boy" Getty. 5-7 p.m. (2295 Shattuck, (510) 568-1680 or 665-9496)

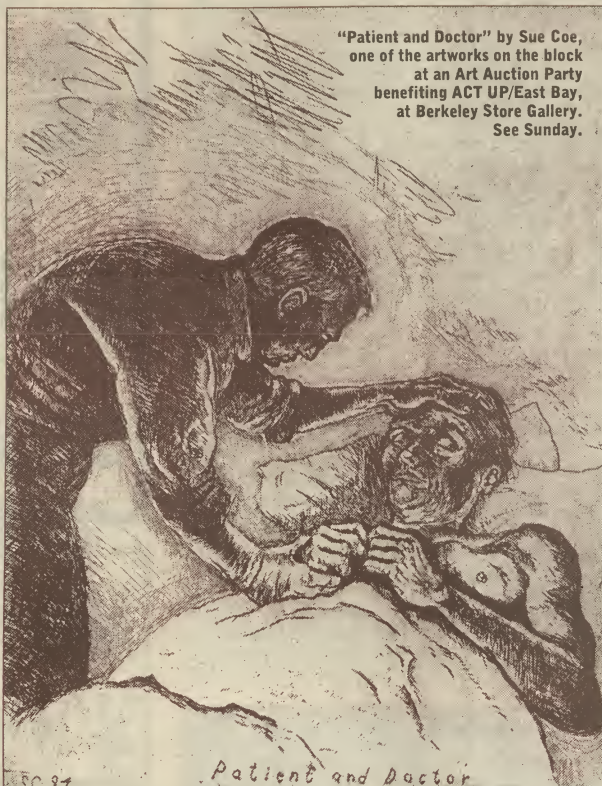
- Movement Coalition for AIDS Awareness member Paul Timothy Diaz performs *SPLASH* and *One AIDS Death*, free, 4pm at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. (3583 16th St., 861-7933)

- A benefit Beer Bust for the MCC Foundation is hosted at the SF Eagle by International Mr. Leather Daniel Sonnenfeld and Golden Gate Ms. Leather Beth Downey. \$8. (398 12th St., 626-0880)

- *I Shall Not Be Removed: The Life of Marlon Riggs* screens, with filmmakers Karen Everett and Evelyn C. White appearing, at Pacific Film Archives (2625 Durant, Berkeley, 255-4945)

- Lifetime Television cable network shows films all day long which center on families' struggles when a son or daughter has AIDS. "Something to Live For: The Allison Gertz Story" stars Molly Ringwald and Martin Landau; "Our Sons" stars Julie Andrews, Ann-Margret, and Hugh Grant as a gay son.

- *Queer Irony* is a program of short films curated by Bay Area filmmaker Cathy Lee Crane, presented by SF Cinematheque at SF Art Institute at 7:30 p.m. \$6. (800 Chestnut, 558-8129) ▼



"Patient and Doctor" by Sue Coe, one of the artworks on the block at an Art Auction Party benefiting ACT UP/East Bay, at Berkeley Store Gallery. See Sunday.

Eg

Angel Dive

New work by Scott Wells and Dancers. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30pm thru 11/30. \$10-15. ODC Performance Gallery Theater, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

Banjy Pussy Raging

Idris Mignott in a multi-character tour-de-force, thru 12/8. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Career

Pipedream Productions presents James Lee's noir tale of stage life. Thru 12/14, call for dates. 8:30pm. \$10. Studio 300, 450 Geary. 921-6444.

Lady, Be Good!

42nd St. Moon's Lost Musical series presents George and Ira Gershwin's jazz age musical, opens today, 2&8pm. Thurs.-Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 6pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 12/15. \$18. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

The Tearjerker Show

Cabaret song stylist Cara Vida performs Cole Porter, Peggy Lee, Leon Redbone. 10pm. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Sat

Brides of the Moon

The Five Lesbian Brothers play an all-woman space crew on a top-secret mission to the moon. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 12/15. Call for times of matinee/twilight shows. \$12-25. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Colors

Benefit salsa party for Mary Guzman's film "Desi's Looking for a New Girl." \$7-10. 9pm-2am. Jelly's, 295 China Basin Way.

Crystal Fair

Crystals, minerals, jewelry and the healing arts. Sat. & Sun. \$4. Bldg. A, Fort Mason. 383-7837.

Eye of the Third Reich

Jurgen Stumpfhaus' historical exposé screened. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Gay Comedy Night

Suzy Berger, Karen Ripley, Mistress of Ceremonies Billy De Herrera. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Harvey Milk

SF Opera presents new opera about legendary gay rights leader. Last performance, 8pm. \$8-125. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market. 864-3330.

Jennifer Holliday

Dreamgirl in special appearance, benefits The Ark of Refuge AIDS program. \$13. 9:30pm-7am. Club Universe, 177 Townsend. 985-5241.

Late Nite with Joan Jett Blakk

Sensational guests, smart talk, biting humor. \$10. Midnight. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Lavender Soiree

Post-Thanksgiving mingle, get restorative dose of gay ener-



gy. 7pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

Lesbigay Radio

Queer music & comedy: pun-dits, politicians & pioneers. Sat. nights at Midnight. 1450 AM. 1-800-GAY-6550.

The Wizard of Oz

The yellow brick road on the big screen. \$5. 2&8pm. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 465-6400.

Womyn of Color Arts and Craft

Original ethnic art by local womyn artists. 10:30am-5pm. Free. La Pena Cultural Ctr, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 845-0422.

Sun

AIDS Movies

Lifetime cable channel shows topical films on World AIDS Day, including Julie Andrews and Ann-Margret in "Our Sons."

Art Auction Party

Works by over 60 artists, benefits ACT UP/East Bay. Entertainment, refreshments. 5-7pm. Berkeley Store Gallery, 2295 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 568-1680.

Beer Bust

Internat'l Mr. Deaf Leather Daniel Sonnenfeld, Golden Gate Ms. Leather Beth Downey MC beer, soda bust, benefits MCC Foundation. Appearances by SF Mr. Leather Gary Virginia, Jungle Red. \$8. 4-7pm. SF Eagle, 12th & Harrison.

G.A.W.K.

Gay Artists & Writers Collective: Jon Sugar comedy cassette release party. 2pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 731-2424.

I Shall Not Be Removed:

"The Life of Marlon Riggs" screened, filmmakers Karen Everett, Evelyn C. White in person. 2pm. Pacific Film Archives, 2625 Durant, Berkeley. 255-4945.

Mark Smolowitz

Speaks to G40+ Club on "After the Celluloid Closet: What Does the Future Hold for Gay and Lesbian Cinema?" 2pm. First Unitarian, 1187 Franklin. 552-1997.

Moving Pictures:

"Films by Photographers" screenings Fri. & Sun. at 1 & 3pm thru 12/15. Museum admission \$7. SFMOMA, 151

3rd St. 357-4000.

Passage

Site-specific performance piece in honor of World AIDS Day. \$5-10. 6&8pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Queer Irony

Short experimental narrative films, curated by Cathy Lee Crane for World AIDS Day. \$6. 7:30pm. SF Cinematheque, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. 558-8129.

Sins and Seduction

Signs for the Future and Latin American Theatre Artists present Tim Roche's adult comedy, fundraiser for Shantl. Sundays at 7pm thru 12/8. Pay what you can. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

SPLASH

Movement Coalition for AIDS Awareness member Paul Timothy Diaz performs work-in-progress set to music of (former) Prince, and "One AIDS Death." Free. 4pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

13 Step

Artists Self-Help Program: bring video, film, performance or rant. 7pm. ATA, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

Vincent Fronczek

Exhibit of erotic photography, thru 1/4. Stormy Leather, 1158 Howard. 626-1672.

Mon

Appropriated Emotion

Art by Diane Fenster and Miles Stryker. Mon.-Sat. thru 12/31. Gallery 16, 1616 16th St. 626-7495.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Karen Ripley. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Same Sex Swing

West Coast Swing dance classes for gay men & women. \$14/class, \$49/month. Beginners, 7pm; Intermediate, 8:30pm. Metronome, 300 De-Haro. 252-9000.

Steve Thompson

Photographs inspired by SF-MOMA, reception tonight, 7pm. Thru Dec. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

Umberto Eco

"The Island of the Day Before" novelist, interviewed on stage. \$16. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

Tues

Commonplace Mysteries

"Photographs by Peter Hujar, Andrea Modica, and Bill Owens" exhibit. Thru 2/2. SF-MOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Confess

6th annual entry fee-free juried exhibition. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/21. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

Don Bachardy

Portraits in oil, watercolor and acrylics. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/15. Mulligan-Shanoski, 747 Post. 771-0663.

Explore:

"The World of Fetish & Kink," a Harvey Milk Institute workshop led by Frank Strona. \$12. 7pm. Eros, 2051 Market. 552-7200.

Drew Kaluski and the company in a scene from Dein Perry's "Tap Dogs," opening at the Orpheum Theatre on Tuesday night. See listing.



Fairy Tales

Contributors to "Happily Ever After: Erotic Fairy Tales for Men" and "Once Upon A Time: Erotic Fairy Tales for Women" read, free, 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Hall of Fame

Exhibition of art and artifacts from over 50 halls of fame, thru 2/23. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Josie's Pussycat Theatre

Artist's Television Access presents queer cinema night. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Nude Before Christmas

Homoerotic paintings and drawings by Rick Herold, thru 12/21. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110. 284-0567.

Philosophical Disturbances

Evening of dances by African American choreographer and dancer Philip Jones. Tues.-Fri. thru 12/6 at 8pm. \$21

advance, \$25 door. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

QTV

Gay and lesbian show includes segment on supermodel Antonio Sabato Jr. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Sappho—

"No Ordinary Housewife," a multimedia installation embracing Sappho's creative genius. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/31. Brava! women's bookstore, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. 369-3335.

Splendors of Imperial China

Survey of treasures from the National Palace Museum, Taipei. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/8. \$9.50. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Tap Dogs

Dein Perry's reinvention of tap dancing: athletic sextet in Blunderstone boots and Levi's. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/15, call for times. \$15-38. Tonight at 8pm. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market. 776-1999.

Women with Balls

The only women-ruled stand-

up comedy room in SF. Tues. at 8pm. \$5. Cat's Grill, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Wed 4

Beach Blanket Babylon

Musical revue's holiday extravaganza shows, call for seasonal schedule. \$18-45. Club Fugazi, 678 Green. 421-4222.

Beat Culture

"And the New America: 1950-1965," exhibition of painting, sculpture, film, installations, music and spoken word. Thru 12/29. deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Bridges

"A Collaborative Project," 115th Annual Exhibition, opens tonight, 5:30pm. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/12. Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. 749-4545.

A Christmas Carol

A.C.T.'s production of Charles Dickens' tale opens. Tues.-

Sat. thru 12/26, call for times. \$19-47.50. Tonight at 7:30pm. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

How to Succeed...

"In Business Without Really Trying," Broadway musical starring Ralph Macchio. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/8, call for times. \$34-62.50. Tonight at 8pm. Golden Gate Theater, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Oral Sex, How Safe?

UCSF AIDS Health Project sponsors community discussion on controversies, myths and facts. 6:45-9:30pm. Community Room, Blow Buddies, 933 Harrison. 502-6101.

Party

David Dillon's comedy: seven gay friends play "Facts and Fantasies." Wed.-Sun. extended thru 1/5, call for times. \$20-25. Tonight at 8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Steve Martin's comedy featuring the NY cast. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 2/16. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

U.S. Manpower

Chablis hosts male dancers. \$2. 10pm. Kimo's, Polk & Pine. 885-4535.

Thur 5

Jesse Allen

Paintings and prints of imaginary landscapes. Thru 1/4. Vorpall Gallery, 393 Grove. 397-9200.

Katharina Fritsch

Survey of works by German sculptor. Thru 3/9. SFMO-MA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

MetaPorn

Tom Bacchus' visual orgy of Photoshop erotica and appropriated imagery, on exhibit thru 12/2. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 863-9999.

Nervous Laughter

Holiday comedy sketches: eggnog, family tensions, alcoholism. Thurs.-Sat. thru 12/28 at 8:30pm. \$8-12. Marsh Theater, 1062 Valencia.

Sound of Music

Lesbian/Gay Chorus of SF, Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence in sing-along "S of M." Prizes for Von Trapp costumes. \$10. 8pm. MCC, 150 Eureka.

Trick

Genderfuck cabaret, every Thurs. 9pm-2am. \$5. CoCo Club, 139 8th St. 331-9595.

Vanities

All-new gay version of Jack Heifner's comedy: lives of three Texan football players. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/21, call for times. \$16-20. Tonight at 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness.

Thanksgiving Dinner Specials



Roast Turkey dinner with apple-raisin cornbread stuffing, caramelized yams, fresh vegetable, mashed potatoes & gravy and cranberry sauce, with soup or salad and pumpkin pie topped with whipped cream.....13.95

Honey-Baked Virginia Ham with pineapple sweet & sour glaze, cornbread stuffing, yams, fresh vegetable, mashed potatoes & gravy and pumpkin pie with whipped cream.....13.95

PRIME RIB with baked potato and creamy horseradish.....9.95

Fried Calamari with cocktail sauce & cajun tarter sauce.....5.25

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directed by Ed Decker

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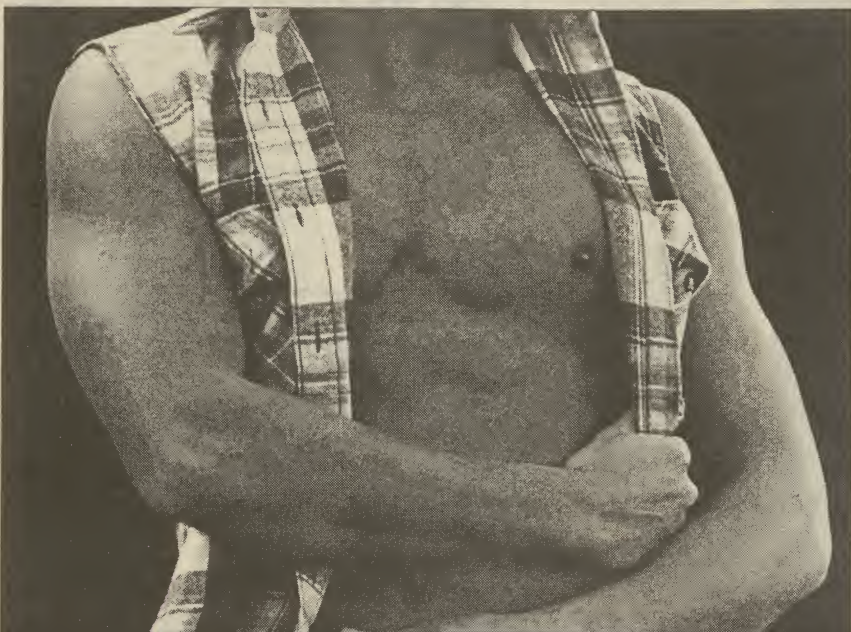
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PARTING GLANCES

Blue Ski Jacket Castro Sat 11/12
Blond guy w/friend. Paths kept crossing. Tried to talk to you in Headlines. You seemed shy. Me: blond, shorts, maroon jacket. Let's get together for a beer? 3601.

Sunday 11/13 N Judah
You in United blue jump suit. Me in red plaid jacket. We kept looking but I had to get off at Noe. Wish I had said hello. Would like to meet. 3602.

Hot N Hunky Nov 17 3:30 PM
You: blue striped dress shirt, dark hair. Me: blue shirt, blue eyes. I was alone w/burger you w/friend & to go bag. Hope to meet you. 3603.

Jeff at Laundromat on 18th St.
You were doing your laundry Tues 10/29. You came & went a couple of times. Me: blue coat, green cap. Asked if you needed help. Like to meet you. Call. 3604.

Buena Vista Sat 10/26 5PM
Your brown hair, blue sweat pants, white T-shirt, gold chain. We played in the park. Would like to see you again. Please call. 3605.

Jim of Guerneville
Met you at Windmills Fri 11/1 at dusk. Seems we both had a good time. I'm freer than I indicated. Please call. Let's talk. 3606.

Montgomery Station Fri 11/1 4 PM, racing down the stairs, you were racing up. Mom's right, we shouldn't rush! You: light brown hair, blue shirt. Me: dark hair, glasses, goatee. Why not meet? 3607.

John @ Eagle 10/27
You were in my fantasies, hope I was in yours? Want to be active participant next time, can I get you naked? Loved your hair cut & more. Scott. 3608.

Cash Only Line Wed 11/6 4:30
Safeway (where else?) on Market. You: blue shirt, gray/silver tie, great smile. Me: glasses, goatee, great smile, too! 3701.

1166 Howard 11/8 at 11:50
You were picking up groceries; shopping area was empty except you and me. You: 5'9", or so, light hair, cap, shirt sleeves rolled up. You turned and smiled. Should have known. Me: Hounds tooth over shirt, mustache, brown hair. Care to meet? 3702.

Yellow Cab 11/2
Van Ness/Calif. to 16th/Sanchez. Should've, Would've, Could've. Call me. 3705.

Fri Nov 1, 18th St.
You were walking up the hill from Market in black shorts. I was walking down the hill; tall, dark sweatshirt. We both turned around and looked. Would like to meet. 3703.

#71 Jersey at Pete's Sun Nov 10
Are you single? You're awfully cute! Would have come over and said hi at Pete's, but couldn't. Pls call; I'd like a date! (Hot Daddy w/blue eyes) 3704.

Sleepless in San Mateo
You are on my mind day & night. Want to look into those big blue eyes & feel what we know is real. Just like that sweetest day of May...Pls call. 3706.

Craig/With Bear Claw Tattoo
On each shoulder. We met pink Saturday, 6/29 & 10/26, pre-Halloween. Didn't get your # right. Let's meet again. Third time's the charm. Kevin. 3801.

McAllister St. Sat 11/16 11AM
You: Curly black hair, Mediterranean skin. Me: standing on marble wall at Hastings. Corduroy jacket & slacks, wire glasses, dirty blond. Watched you walk by, turn & look four times. Call!! 3802.

Dave From Ohio Recently From SJ
If you'd tune me in again I'd enjoy getting to know you better—Todd met at Lone Star 11/17. 3803.

Jim/Mark F-Line/Castro
Sunday Nov 17. It was a pleasure meeting. Wished we had walked home together, but I had much to do. Another Sunday soon? 3804.

SF Jacks Nov 11th
You: cowboy boots & not much else. Tall and you speak French. You said 'I'll mingle!' then you vanished. Call me now. I want to kiss you again. 3805.

Nancy Boy
You are my B***! I Love you! From you T-Devil-Thumper. 3806.

Leather W/Priapus
Dude at Folsom fair in black leather jacket w/silver painted priapus on back—keep thinking of you. Saw you shirtless at Castro fair. Let's chat! You're too cute. 3807.

5PM 11/15 Powell St. BART
You: shaved head, beautiful eyes, going to east bay. Me: dr blue sweatshirt, jeans, glasses, mustache. 3811.

Whole Foods Market 10/14 9PM
You: handsome bald WM, 20's. Me: Asian w/glasses. We exchanged glances & smiles, you behind me at checkout stand. Shy to talk, you left in small (ivory?) car. Please call. 3808.

Alameda 360° Gourmet Burrito
On Marina village parkway. I believe you drive a BMW. I left w/my two friends while you were waiting for you. Food to go. September '96. 3809.

35 Eureka Bus, Sat 11/9 3PMish
You sat next to me w/bag from Pearl's art supplies. I had on a white ASU sweatshirt. I got off at 25th you gave me a big smile. Let's meet! 3810.

24 Gym Post, 10/15 About 2:00
You: handsome Asian in black, leaving, at water fountain. Me: tall, white male, blue shorts, white top. I turned. You winked & smiled. I said hi. Second chance. Call me. 3812.

Matt Sunday 11/17
Met at Midnight Sun. Barhopped our way till Pleasurewood. (Phoenix and Detour in between). Been thinking of you since. Ed. 3813.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Young Cute Buns Seeks Older
Life before 52 is just a rehearsal says ex-intel, television model, 27, new in US, 6'1", 157#, w/satin smooth tan skin & cute bubble buns, seeks sexy, classy, mature, gentleman, 52-67. 3609.

Need a Lasting Companion
"55" and most sincere HGM ISO a WGM, 25-35, for lasting commitment in a sexual and economic relationship, prefer moderately hung top. 3610.

Cute and Handsome
GWM, 37, 5'4", 130#, br/bl, HIV-, professionally employed. Passionate w/a great sense of humor. Looking for GWM, 35-50, HIV- for dating, living, loving, & eventual commitment. 3611.

Seeking Asian Companionship
GWM seeks slim, smooth, clean shaven Asian. I'm nice-looking, 39, 6', 175#, brown hair/hazel eyes, kind, caring, loving, sincere, honest, patient. 3612.

Attractive Asian
Looking for friendship. I'm 31 yr old, 150#, 5'6", HIV-, sexy, hot & gldng guy. Don't waste your time, call now, and I'll be waiting for you. 3613.

Muscular GAM Wants GWM Lover
29, 5'6", 140#, 28"W, handsome, intelligent, kind, hot body, bubble butt bottom, in San Rafael, seek 25-35, slim, masculine, top, hung +, HIV-, to love & share meaningful life together. 3614.

Masculine Hairy Young
Masculine, hairy guy, very laid back, 5'11", 180#, blond intelligent enjoy quite times together. Walks SM, BD, 3-ways or more, cuddling. ISO 30's-40's Top man, 5'11", in shape Bear w/similar interests. 3615.

Ooh Darlin', Explain Your Life
Lat (6'2"), dark, handsome, lean, clean-shaven, masculine, HIV-, extraordinarily private 42 yo GWM seeks secure, sensitive, unabashedly romantic, disarmingly handsome GWM. SF only (Physicians &/or Attorneys need not respond). 3616.

Are You HIV, Middle Age
In good health and maybe because of diet & exercise you don't physically look your age. You are pass keeping up w/the gang, one night stands, relationship w/no future... 3617.

Trim Masc, Italian Man
Well endowed, ave to nice l'ng & warm & sensitive seeks same for fun & poss. LTR. Tony. 3618.

Buffed GBM 4 Hunky GWM
Muscular, masculine, attractive & intelligent, intensely spirited African-American professional seeks high-quality, mainstream, socially confident, muscular & mature, witty Euro-American professional...for fun laughs, friendship...maybe more! 3619.

New Boy in Town
Handsome GWM, 40, tall, muscular build, wide mind, deep heart, warm humor, seeks fit, thoughtful Black Latino male for friendship & passionate adventures. 3620.

GWM Seeks Similar GWM 30-45
For fun. Average looking nice guy seeks same. 3621.

Platonic Gldng Slim Retired
Guy. Mustache, crewcut, hip, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, seeks similar guy. Non-sexual. Interests: music, opera, politics, science, etc. smoke, bars OK. Restaurants No! SF. 3622.

Honor My Romantic Side
GWM, 36, 6'1", 180#, HIV+, healthy, wants an honest & sincere romantic adventure. Seeking LTR w/one whose in need of TLC. No substance abuse. 3623.

Absolute Monogamy
GWM, c/n shv, 6', 8", HIV-, seeks masc. top "Dad," muscular, mustache, hairy, only HIV-. I am loving, friendly, sensitive. Do not want plague. 3707.

GBM, 6'2", 185#, V. Attractive
40 yrs old seeks GBM same age or older for fun time, a caring, loveable guy. Friend Poss. lover-serious only. 3719.

Sincere Asian
GAM, 42, 5'5", smooth, bottom. Enjoy cuddling, kissing, sex. Smoker. Food, coffee, travel. Smoker. You: tall, weight proportionate, under 47 for friendship first, maybe relationship later. 3708.

Body Positive
We are a social group for healthy minded, HIV+ men. We have a monthly potluck social, as well as special weekend activities. This is a great way to meet new friends. 3709.

Rugged Good Looks? Me Too
Too shy to start? Well, GWM, 42, 6'2", 210#, bearded, very oral seeks someone like me. Homebody, but likes weekends. Intelligent, employed, HIV-, NS, humorous, Picket Fences fan. 3710.

Men Who Wear Plaids Are
Considered lovable, thoughtful, earthy. 36 yo Filipino, w/lots of loving to give, HIV-, drug & alcohol free, seeking GWM, 35-45, mini bear or under 200 # for life's enjoyment & happiness. 3711.

Muscle Boy Seeks Same
Searching for a cute muscular young Asian boy? I'm 5'10", 170 #, 30" waist. Interests include gym, eat-out, antiques, traveling. I'm smart, romantic, mature, funny, financially secure. Seeks same. 3712.

Change of Season/Weather
Best time to keep warm w/somebody. GAM 26, fit, intelligent, gldng, independent, dry sense of humor seeking GWM mid 20's-30's, smart, funny, active, romantic, professional. 3713.

WM Seeks BM
GWM, early 50's, 6', 200#, br/bn, mustache, hairy chest, HIV-, seeking younger GBM, slender or muscular, who likes to suck & cuddle. East Bay OK. 3714.

Hairy HIV+ Dad
41, 6'2", 185#, drk hair, hazel, ruggedly handsome, eclectic youthfull, into music, books, art, outdoors, sensuous seeking a gldng man-boy, in shape/serious dating. 3715.

Athletic Asian
49, 5'9", 150#, seeks smooth, clean-shaven, gym-toned WM into hiking, work-outs, sports, dancing, arts, & travel for urban & wilderness adventures. 3716.

Go For It
25 year old, Eurasian, professional, strikingly handsome, lean (5'10", 145#) seeks an equally attractive GWM (European a plus), 22-28, who is fun, outgoing, & masculine. 3717.

Bear Cat GWM 185# Brn/Brn
Average build have mustache & beard. Seeking similar male who finds the foregoing attractive. I have a magical world view & prefer those who understand this. I like hairy guys. Be very smart. 3718.

Hombre Latino
Attractive GWM, mid 30's, small muscular build, green/brown, HIV-, wants to meet an attractive Latin for dating, romance & LTR prefer masculine, furry, stocky types who are sexually versatile. 3814.

Affectionate Gentleman
GWM, 50, 6', 170, healthy, HIV-, oral, good looks, honest, stable seeks same in GM, 25-45, for dating/LTR, romance. Affection, cuddling, monogamy. 3815.

Rare GAM Born in Shanghai
Attractive 48, looks 30ish, 5'9", 150#, toned hot body. Loves music of Philip Glass & art of Irving Noran. Seeks GM to date, prefer 28-48, sexy, very fit, spiritual & open minded. 3816.

Dear Black Bodybuilder Sir
Extra handsome GWM, bottom, 50, 5'10", 175#, S/P, good build, NS/ND, STD-, for your satisfaction. You're 35-55, NS/ND, STD- into safe, affectionate, rough-edged, hot sex. LTR possible. 3817.

Walk In The Clouds-Napa Valley
Ex-SF Boy now Headlines dreamer romantic poet Nordic-Blue lovable Photojournalist into Tao Zen metaphysics & nature seeks 21-37 yo. Attractive collegiate type-object: Passionate LTR. Share dreams by mail. 3818.

Seeking HIV+ Guys
Prefer Latinos or Caucasians, 24-35, for friendship first maybe LTR. I'm 25, 5'7", 165#, Latin, optimistic, attitude, student. Open-minded guys only. 3819.

South Bay Guys Only
Professional GAM, 28, 5'10", 155#, ISO GWM between 25-30, fit, non-smoker, HIV-, drug-free, for friendship & possible relationship. 3820.

Nature & Mischievous? Me Too!
Attractive WM, 39, seeks nice looking man w/whole heart & occasional impure thoughts. Bonus points for hairy chest & great smile. LS OK. 35-45. 3821.

Cute White Boyz
I'm 23, SWM, 5'9", 165#, Brown/Hazel, seeking cute white boys, 18-24, for friendship, hopefully more. I'm hairy, little chubby, but sincere. 3822.

Hairy HIV+ Gym-Goer ISO LTR
43 yo, 5'8", 160#, gym-strong but no stuck-up BB, very hairy, healthy HIV+ topman, ISO similar (i.e. stocky, strong, hairy, pos) mate for LTR. I'm educated, stable, smart & funny, into wrestling, rough leather sex, more. 3823.

Long Term Relationship Wnted
By sweet, warm, caring, handsome, HIV+, GWM 40+, in shape, seeking same or younger. NS/ND, witty, sensual. Let's date! Great catch! James. 3824.

I'm Attractive Japanese
Seeking clean shave, attractive GWM, age 35-50 & sexy/funny person. I'm 38 yo, 5'7", 137#. 3825.

South Bay Daddy
Very fit GWM, 53, 6', 185#, goatee, masculine, seeks dark skinned very fit masculine guy who is down to earth & not into games but likes to play. LTR possible. 3826.

Not Looking For Mr. Right Away
GWM, 33, 5'9", br/bl, NS, closet conservative ISO GLM or mid-eastern, NS, for potential LTR. All good things take work. Will you? 3827.

Mature 45-65 Fun Quiet Fit
Like to travel, swim, bike, music etc. Looking for sincere person that's real. NS, East Bay. 3828.

Alternative/29, GAM, 5'8", 190#
Who's a tattoo sportin', punkrock listenin', animal lovin', wry humorin', silly actin', kind bein', fun, creative, neat kinda guy—Lookin' 4 a real person w/sim. interest. 4 Friends/LTR. 3829.

Southern Charm
GLM, 5'7", 220#, Slat/Pepper, hairy, southern, 40, stable, kind, NS, homebody, seeks GM, 40's, husky, for friendship, possibly more. 3830.

Passionate/Romantic Asian Male
Sought by prime Italian male for companionship, romantic/passionate interludes, travel companion. Be sincere & free of prejudices. Willing to love & be loved. 3831.

I Know You're Out There
30 year old, masculine, musc., 6', 190#, brown hair/eyes, attractive, HIV+ bottom, seeks similar muscular, tall, manly top, under 40 for long-term relationship. 3832.

Asian Lover, Are You Out There
GWM, 28, 5'11", 175#, br/bn, in great shape, looking for relationship oriented, professional GAM, 27-35, who's like me: intelligent, fun loving, into movies, working out, music, dining out, enjoying life. Serious only. 3833.

Seeking Asian Men Aggressive
GWM seeks 40-6- yr old Asian men for LTR & long steady passionate love. I'm 6'2", 150#, bottom. Will answer all! 3834.

Shamanic SM
Bondage master (rope) interested in Shamanism wants independent masochist and/or submissive 20-47 yo for partnership. Be in-shape. I'm 5'9", 180#, handsome, muscular sadist. Exp & serious only. 3835.

GBM HIV+ Sks True Love
36, 6', 185#, tired of games, one night stands. Romantic gldng top sks LTR w/30-45, healthy, in shape, HIV+, bottom who desires a meaningful relationship. NS, sexually expressive. 3836.

Sindr GWM Wntd By GAM 4 Frnd
Or pos LTR. HIV-, healthy, NS/ND. I'm kind, thoughtful, warm & caring. I prefer top & fun on reg basis. 3837.

Handsome Smooth
Swimmer, an honest, playful WM. 5'11", 145#, 29w, a muscular, green eyes, big smile, well-blessed, HIV-, seeks healthy, hairy, muscularly well-defined friend for sensual massage, mutual strokes. 3838.

Black Guy 40, 6'1", 160#, HIV-
Dreads, beard seeks companions. I'm vegetarian. I live in a small cabin in the mountains of Mendocino county. I enjoy hiking, camping, swimming & many kinds of music. I'm no looking for a sex buddy. I don't drink, smoke, or take drugs. I'm a masseur, musician, gardener, music teacher & astrologer. I'm very spiritual, gentle & kind. 3839.

LESBIAN

Friend or Girlfriend
I'm mid-30's, 5'5", attractive, feminine, honest, professional, foreigner, living in SF. I'd like to meet a lot of lesbians for friendship or dating. NS. ND. R. age, butch/femme, don't matter. 3753.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

GBM HIV+ ISO Jap or GWM Tops Healthy, HIV+, GBM, 180#, 5'11", ISO total tops. Prefer Japanese or GWM under 40. A+ for small, well-built men w/big dicks. #3624.

Italian Dad Seeks Son

To have & to take care of. Be sweet & cute, prep. 18-30 to 40 OK. Tony. #3625.

Nasty Boys Only

For long fuck sessions. UB: GWM/GLM, 25-35 yo, clean shaven, good shape, w/hot hole, ready & willing. Me: GWM top, good shape, 5'6", 140#, brn/brn, 40 yo. #3626.

Top Seeks Top

Good-looking, in shape, very sexy, hairy body & equipment, 5'10", 170#, young 50's. Approaching temporary dominant burn out. Need challenge seek similar, hairy preferred. Let's chew some tit. See who gets hot. #3627.

Seeking Hairy Hung Guy

5'9", 185#, beefy, muscular, br/gr, hung, U/C, smooth, HIV+, 31 yo, seeks hairy, hung, guy for regular sessions, age, race, shape unimportant. Just be hairy, hung, HIV+. #3628.

Uncut? Hung?

If you have a huge uncut dick, let's meet. Me: 6'2", 210#, brn/gr, very well built. You have an enormous uncut dick. Heavy & horse hung A+. #3629.

BSM Into Butch Bottom & More! Lookin' for nice Mexican or Latin brother to kick it with. No femme please. Friendship &/or more. #3630.

Double Treat!

Equipped w/succulent thick meat & tasty butthole? Qualifiers sought by aggressively oral mature GAM for fun times. No drugs; 3-way OK. HIV+ a must. #3631.

Are You Dom Hot Horny & Hung 2 Masculine, gldng bottom men, 5'11", 175#, each will submit to you & others. Anywhere, time or place you want it. Parking lots, doorways? Get kinky. #3632.

Safe Sex Buddies/Massage Mates Deal GWM, 44 years young, 6', 145#, brown/blue, goatee seeking GBM, GLM & GAM, 21-50, gym-toned, slim-built to average for hot times & adventures. #3633.

Enter and Be Safe

You're a well-built, 20's-40's, NS, G/B/M, any height. Whether shy or brash, you'd like to sexually dominate & gently condom-top an attractive, unaffected 38 yo, 6'3", 175#, short-haired, clean-shaven & highly responsive bottom. #3634.

Fat, Black, 50 year old East Bay Man-rod needs a 10-min daily throat expert to relieve me at 6 AM or 11 PM daily. Sincere, serious, mobile experts only please. Outdoor test first. Thanks. #3635.

Rauch & Sleaze...

In Tiljuna, leaving in mid January for a week of sex, wild times, bath houses & porn theaters. Looking for other masculine men to share the adventure. (No drugs) #3636.

In My Face Sort of Guy

Wants your heavy load in mine. Great oral service for masculine blacks, Asians, & super hairy men. Your place, HIV-, GWM 43, fit, hungry. Gives no hassle head. #3637.

Uncircumcised Male Wanted

WM ISO uncut man for oral encounters. UB: fit, masculine, muscular Daddies, blue collars, esp Hispanics. #3638.

Macho Bossman

Tall, tough, bearded, hairy, well-built, WM, 42, seeks masculine, built, punk boy, any age or race to dominate, humiliate, violate. Into verbal abuse, bondage, spit, rimming, blowjobs. No smokers/druggies. #3639.

Love Tit Work & Massage?

So do I. Masc., GWM, 53, 6'2", 280#, HIV-, gray/blue. Smoker, drug free, light drinker, not into bars. ISO similar, 40's-60's, hiv/w/prop. Some message got erased before I got the info down. Esp those on Sun Nov 3rd. #3642.

Bare Butt Spankings

Administered to deserving boys. Will use hard, paddle & strap to teach a lesson you won't forget. Young inexperienced OK. This coach is 37, tall, muscular, healthy. LTR? #3641.

Missed My Messages

If you answered ad #3225, smooth hungry black butt, 42, HIV+, slender, super tight butt & didn't get a response, please try again. Some message got erased before I got the info down. Esp those on Sun Nov 3rd. #3642.

Christophe

You answered my ad but left a phone number that didn't work. Please call again, for some fun & adventure. #3731.

Muscle Love Does silky olive skin on sculpted muscles make your cock rise in pulsating salute, cum boiling in your balls? Handsome, Hawaiian, bodybuilder, 35, wants other uninhibited muscle-men. #3643.

Horny Butthole ISO cocks, cum, trims. Bareback only. Me: 44, tall, firm, Poz. You: horny, hung. #3644.

Must Be Someone Like Myself

Who likes hot four play hot sex. Licking, feeling, JO, 69, etc. If your hot, slim, HIV-, to 55 male or couples. I am HIV-, 55, & ready. Safe sex. #3720.

Collared & Submissive GWM

37, attractive, 5'10", seeks verbal, dominant attractive GM, NS, smooth, 33-43, for oral service, leashed submission, possible whipping. SF. Thank you sir. #3721.

Deep Velvet Throat In Berkeley

Very handsome, slender, masculine, blue-eyed, mid 30's, yuppie will suck off, in-shape, white & Latin studs under 40. Straight or bi? Will eat your girlfriend's pussy, too. #3722.

Party Favor

Spice up that boring Birthday dinner. I'll service the guest of honor or the entire party. I aim to please. #3723.

Seeking Asian Top

GWM seeks healthy, dependable Asian stud who spansks & is condom crazy. A caring person, but peremptory & eternally horny. Humorous, too. #3724.

Hot Bottom Needs Man-Hole Fuck

Nasty guy seeks hot tops & their bodies for uninhibited raw fuck trips. Gang-bangs, rape scenes fill my hole up. Wild hard-core fantasy trips. Give me your stiff rods! #3725.

Come Over & Fuck Me

Big/Blu, WM, 30, 5'10", 195#, Bodybuilder, 48" ch, 31" W, 18" arms wants gldng, masculine men to pound me, anytime. #3726.

Cum on, Ride The (B&W) Train

2 hot guys (blonde muscle boy and gangsta rapper look-a-like) seek hot assed third (Latino, Asian or other brother preferred) as either bottom boy or middleman for East Bay, Three-way action. #3727.

Seeking Ongoing Fuck Buddy

Slender, in shape, early 50's, GWM bottom seeks topman for regular meetings. I'm masculine but smooth, submissive, responsive, & eager to please. You are HIV-, play safe, any race. #3728.

Naked At The Door

Have you ever answered your door stark naked? Door to door sex survey guy wants to interview a masculine guy w/a lean build. I'm a trim masculine WM, 40. #3730.

Hungry Sonoma Co. Butch Bottom

Opens his throat & hairy hole for butch, well hung tops only. Be in shape, I'm 6'1", 190#, br/br, must, goatee, HIV+, 30's, Italian & masculine. Beard, Hairy A+. #3732.

Handsome Hairy Italian

Bottom, ISO smooth dark skinned Asian or Latino in Excelstor district for sex & friendship. #3733.

Seeking Dominant Top Asian

You: sexy, horny Asian who wants oral service and/or loves to fuck. Me: 35 yo, GWM, 5'10", gr/br, 160#, athletic, totally submissive. #3734.

Young GBM, 24

Attractive & imaginative wants GWM, over 30, as a sexual partner for wonderful sensual pleasures. I'm a versatile & compatible man in Oakland. #3735.

Need To Get Off?

Looking for regular buddies to suck off & eat butt on a regular basis. No hassles. Just get off & come back when you're ready. #3736.

East Bay Dad Looking For Boy Into BD/submission/training. 18-35, some experience but eagerness to learn/please A+. Me: 40's, in shape, experienced, sadistic but sane, limits respected expanded over time. #3737.

Service My Foreskin & Dock Cock

HIV- WM, 5'11", 160#, br/br, smooth, 7" uncut w/ample overhang needs slow, long, intensive servicing, chewing & stretching. Then fuck my foreskin (Docking) & shoot your cum inside my manskim. You: Attr., HIV-, 18-50, & foreskin hungry. #3738.

Men Over 55

Where are all the older men at? We need sex too! I'm 56, 5'2", 120#, 7", hot tight ass. Need to be sucked, fucked, & FF. Work my balls hard & slow. I also love to suck a big cock all the way down. Eager to please. Race unimportant. #3739.

GWM 54yrs 110#

Blue eyes, 5'2", mustache, HIV-, North Bay. Have a little furry ass & I love to suck big cock over 7". Then you fuck my ass good. Days & weekends better. Age, race, unimportant. #3740.

Big Nipple Oral Bottom SF

Takes & gives daytime workout. In shape GWM only pls. #3840.

Black Top Man Wanted!

Seeking horny, very muscular, butch BM top for discreet, man-to-man sessions. Am willing, hard-bodied WM needing a butch, tall, buffed, classy BM to top me. HIV- a must. #3841.

I Wanna Suck Your...

Ass. Do you like prolonged sessions w/a hot tongue buried up your ass? If so, I'm your man. Italian, 43, 6', 190#, rugged build w/goatee. #3842.

No Romance Wanted...

And no reciprocation allowed! Sit back & enjoy the services of this hungry, handsome, 38 yo, oral expert. You are 25-45, hard cut, gay, bi or curious. EB/SF. #3843.

Looking 4 Date

Cute GBM, 35, 5'11", 155#, professional, intelligent, HIV-, & available: looking for tops NS/ND, HW/WT proportional, HIV- GM between 30-42. #3844.

Spanking & Whipping Wanted

By young GWM, bl/gr, sweet face. Hot ass. L/F handsome, fit stern man for ass whipping/role plays. Fatherhood, tight Levis/Warriors, dominant talk, belts, leather A+. Watches welcome. #3845.

Asian Seeks Smooth White Male

Versatile Asian boyish type seeks the 'All American' gldng/clean, smooth WM. Slender A+. Be 25-45. Call for safe fun. #3846.

Dominant Asian Tops Wanted

Submissive heavyset WM, bottom wants AM tops. If you have friends, bring them along. There is enough for everyone. #3847.

Serious Cock Sucker

47, GWM, HIV-, seeks serious cocks 8" or better, cut or uncut. For great laid back service. Any race, age, serious only. Downtown SF. #3848.

Horny In Hayward

Muscular, light Bi BM, Attractive, 6'2", 195#, 40's, seeks Asian or Latin friend for cuddling, massage & long oral sessions, very versatile. #3849.

East Bay Bottom (Masculine)

Seeking fuck buddy for on-going, get-togethers. Any age or race. Smoke/Drink OK. I'm 6', 160#, brown/blue, 44yo, HIV-, need a guy for close intimate pleasure. Don't need my solo JO's. #3850.

Fuck Buddy Wanted

GWM, 40+, in shape, Hot! Seeks Same for good time. Deep oral interest! Versatile! Avail Day times too! James. #3851.

Here Is My Fantasy. I Lay Down naked, you walk in, (door unlock) you grease my man's hole & fuck me. Real good GBM are most welcome. #3852.

Strong Silent Type

Needs pos. Butch bottom boys, 20-40 to slam bareback. Me: tall, handsome, long-haired, pos. Masculine, hung, 30's, 195#. Like it deep & hard. #3853.

Butch, Buffed Handsome Dad!

Me: 6'1", 190#, built, butch, eager to please. Seeking hot Dads, passionate, very muscular, horny, into occasional leather, cigars, HIV- a must. Butch, stache, buffed, masculine, muscles. #3854.

Seeking Hot Attractive Gifted Top

W/that extra endowment that makes me very horny w/kinky & provocative ideas to stir my balls. GWM, 36, 5'5", 150#, attractive, well-built, horny, adventurous, bottom. #3855.

Safe Sex Orgies In Sonoma Cnty

Must be under 28yo, gldng, good shape, for 3 comes & more w/tops possible (21 & 24). Regular meetings possible. Very discreet. #3856.

Want Buddies For Real Sex Ses.

GWM, 45, 5'10", 170#, br/bl, mustache 7" cut, expert oral service. In Santa Rosa area. Tell me how you want it. #3857.

Hot Piece of Ass Wanted

Dominant, muscular, fuck stud, 35 yrs, 185#, 6'1", seeks boys/men, 18-38, w/very tight, muscular, non-fat butts who love an 8" dick up their ass. #3858.

Uncut Chorizo Wants Cocksucker

I've got a beautiful light brown dick. Suck my cock. Swallow my load (optional) or I'll come in your face. You: 20-4-, HIV- Me: 7", Hispanic. #3859.

My Wet Lips Service You Slowly

I then spread my tight ass, eat me, finger my cock. Swallow my load (optional) or I'll come in your face. You: 20-4-, HIV- Me: 7", Hispanic. #3860.

Hot Hole Needs Attention

Hot handsome GWM, 33, 5'11", 180#, loves to have my tight, smooth, muscle ass probed & manipulated. Open me up. Must be masc. GWM under 45. Leather/Slings A+. #3861.

Let's Wrestle

Muscular, handsome GWM seeks others turned on by wrestling. Open to all skills levels & fantasies. No heavy rough housing. Just good, clean, sweaty fun. Go ahead & call—you won't be disappointed. #3862.

Are You Man Enough?

Energetic, masculine, WM, early 50's, 6', 195#, top, ISO muscular WM, 20-35, submissive, for regular training session B&D included. Be HIV-, serious, eager to please. #3863.

JD Buddies Wnted By Sexy GWM

Extremely gldng, buzz cut, masculine, & hung stud w/gymnast's build, (5'6", 150#, 40" chest, 28" waist) wants every dykling, in shape guys under 35 to hook up for fun. Shortgys, big dicks & friendliness A+. #3864.

FETISHES

Erotic Tickling

Attractive, friendly GWM, early 40's, excellent shape, seeks similar (20's-40's) for hot tickling sessions. Must be ticklish, especially on feet. Will reciprocate w/right person. Relationship possible, optional. #3865.

Bare Assed Spanking

Big Daddy bear gives great spankings. Experienced. Safe. Fantasies fulfilled. #3866.

Big Balls Fat Dick Verbal Dom I squat fully clothed in front of you (verbal top), wrap lips around dick-head, watch huge balls swing while I jerk you off. Be HIV- I can swallow payload. #3866.

Feet and More

Latino guy, 30, 5'11", very attractive. Would like to meet Latinos or Whites, 21-30, NS, ND, into foot fetish. Serious only. No lies. #3867.

Woodshed Discipline

Gldng WM, 47, 5'10", 155#, strict but caring, seeks cute, in-shape, clean-shaven WM under 30 needing thrashing, humiliation w/other bad boy. Also seeking co-disciplinary WM, 30-50, handsome, sane, scene oriented. #3868.

Manhole Wanted

Does yours protrude, w/lots of lip on it. You: in shape, 21-45. Let my hot tongue work it good. I'm hot, handsome, 40, 5'11", 160#. #3869.

Oral Slave

Wants two or more masculine men to use me. Suck dick, lick balls, rim, WS, SM any or all of the above, GWM, 35, 5'11", 160#, blo, bl/grm. #3870.

Duch!

Spank me, tie me up. Jack me off slowly while looking into my eyes. Sexy boy, 30, 5'8", 130#, seeks take charge man. #3871.

I am Back

WM w/big clean feet, cut, come on get naked. Relax & let a 50's hot tongue & mouth make you feel good. #3872.

Gummer Wanted

You take out your dentures & go down on me. Me: mature, clean, GWM, HIV-. You: clean, any age, race, HIV-. No S. #3873.

Straight WM Needs Humiliation

Let this mature masculine male watch you jack off. Slap my face w/your hard cock coming on my face & rubbing it w/you semi hard cock. #3874.

Kinky Buffed Blond

Very attractive, gym toned, 32, bottom (but versatile) seeks attractive, in-shape GAM for kinky, sleazy fun: FF & toys, piss, ranch, light SM & BD, verbal abuse &—? #3875.

Man W/Tee Ring Loves Barefeet

Lifelong excitement looking at & fantasizing about men's barefeet. Gldng, East Bay GWM, 5'9", trim, tan, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefeet & sensual/safe all over body play. #3876.

I Want To Serve You

Gldng male, 31, smooth athletic body, round ass seeks attractive, dominant, verbal, non-hairy, sexually demanding, in-shape guy under 40, who knows what he wants. Notice but willing to please/explode. #3877.

Sneaker Sniffer! Bootlicker!!!

Too suck! Shoe polish! Oral, mature, obedient, respectful deep throat expert will kneel to worship & service a man who knows what he wants. #3878.

Tit Master Needed

To train large nipples on rock hard 47 inch chest. #3879.

Seeking Dominant Master

Submissive bottom eager to please, obey. Handsome, 38, clean shaven masc, smooth pussy boy, 6', 165#. Use my deep throat, ass, tits/or your pleasure. Prefer in shape, under 45. #3880.

Safe Kinky Anal Play

Head down...bottom up! Relax & let me pleasure you—massage, finger & dildo play, erotic spanking. You're 18-30, any race w/petty ass, chubby OK. I'm handsome, youthful 40, 5'9", 205#, San Jose or SF area. #3881.

Need It Hard & Rough?

Being used & abused, forced to take oversized Dildos. Painful ass stretching/rape scenes. Make you choke & gag on my stiff tool. #3882.

Daytime Asshole Eater

Get your asshole eaten by a pro! #3883.

Bondage For Asians

WM, late 40's, will strip, tie you up, play w/your cock, balls, tits & make you cum. Explore your fantasy. Muscular A+. #3884.

Latex Player

Wanted hot, masc., athletic, latex players for latex/rubber play work-outs. Must own some rubber. Bondage equip encouraged. Facial hair types A+. #3885.

Cheese Whiz

Sniffin' for smegma & piss. Hot bodied, hairy, tattooed, 43 yr old piss drinkin' cock sucker seeks, uncult guys w/raunchy attitude. Slinkers, dirty pits & assholes A+. #3886.

Foot Fun

GWM, 41, muscular, handsome, 5'11", 165#, brown hr., brown eyes into big foot fetish looking for GLM, GAM into same. You are also muscular or trim & similar in h/wt to me, 34-49 yrs. #3887.

COUPLES

My Lover Doesn't Like 3-Ways

But I do! GWM, 38, 6', 173#, br/brn, handsome Italian, healthy HIV+ seeks couple 25-45, in EB or SF. I'm usually oral & bottom, but versatile in trios. #3888.

Tops Looking 4 Mr. Good Bottom

Gldng SF couple, HIV-, 40 & 42, tired of monogamy. Looking for hot bottom, HIV-, 25-45, who is ready to play. #3889.

Three's Company In Sonoma

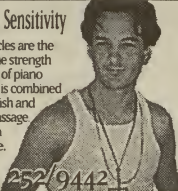
GW couple wants 3rd, 34-50, any race, comfortable open to sensual erotic play. While we fuck, your cock sucked. Nipple, ass play. Safe HIV-, ND. #3890.

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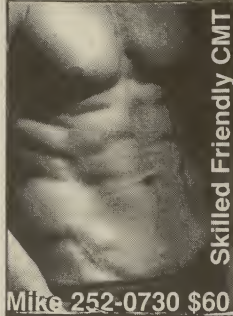
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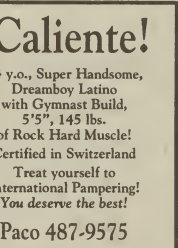
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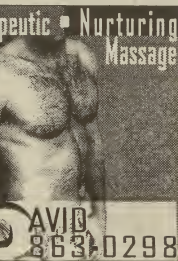
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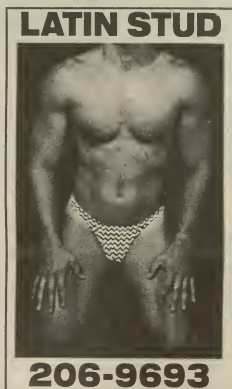
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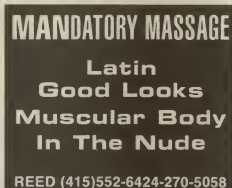
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LATIN STUD



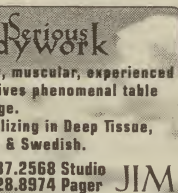
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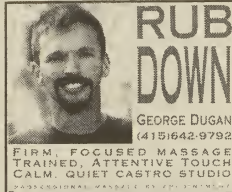
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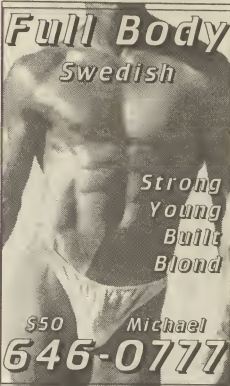
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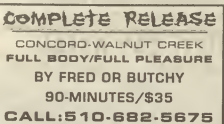
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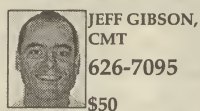
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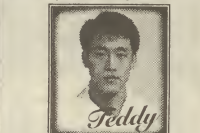


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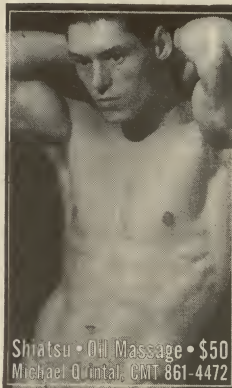
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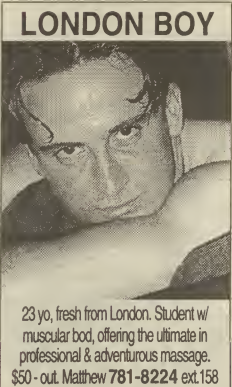
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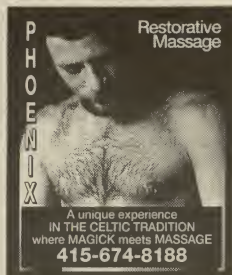
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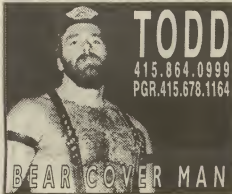
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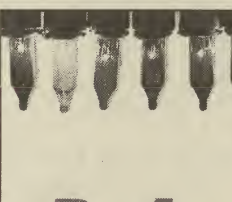
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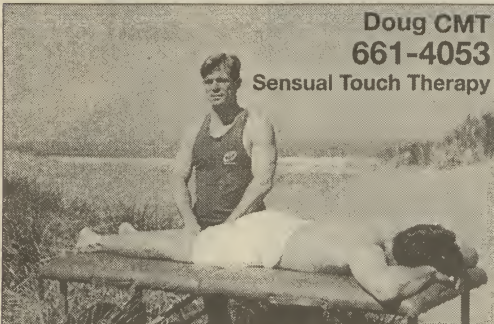


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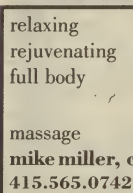
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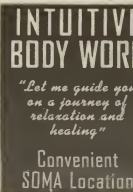


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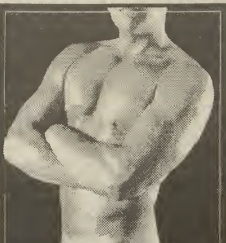
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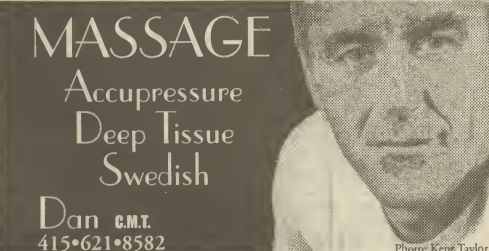


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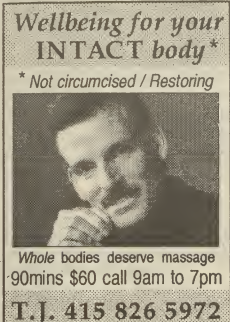
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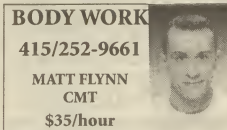
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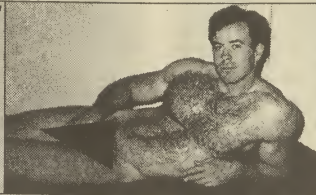
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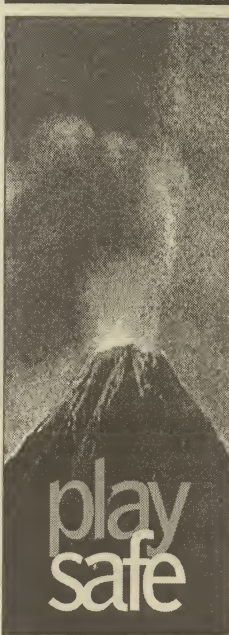
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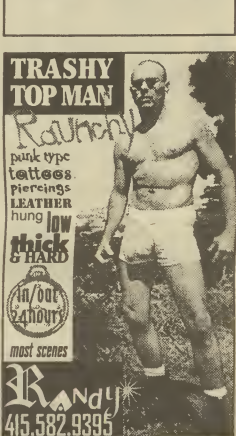
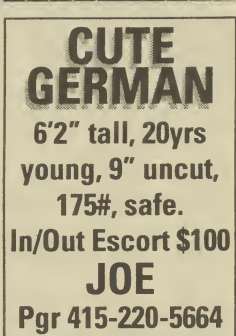
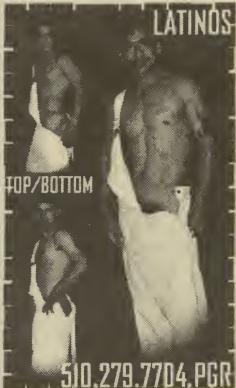
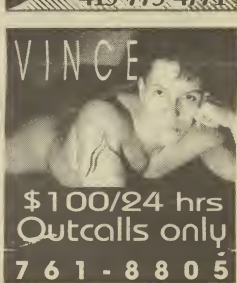
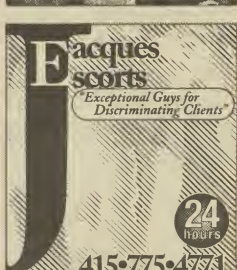
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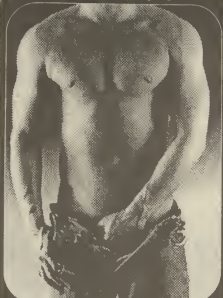
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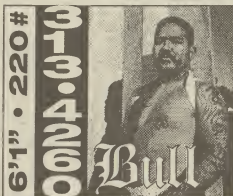
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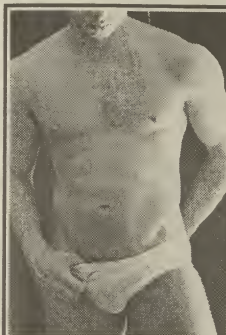
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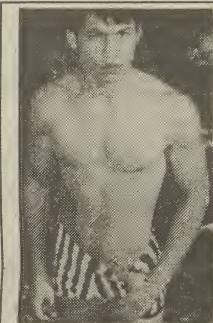
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